

SPECIMEN SUBMISSION GUIDELINE FOR AVIAN DNA SEXING

Note: **If you are inexperienced at handling birds, we recommend that feather samples to be taken by an experienced bird handler or by a veterinarian. This is a precaution for the safety of the bird and your own.**

Feather Collection Procedures

1. Feathers for DNA sexing test should be freshly plucked, not naturally molted.
DNA is extracted from the base of the feather, just below the surface of the skin.
2. Avoid plucking feathers from the opposite end or plucking in clumps.
3. Before taking any feather samples, make sure that your hands are clean.
If you are collecting samples from multiple birds, wash hands between each collection.
4. Preferably pluck 10 medium sized feathers from chest or breast area. Blood or primary feathers are not required. Small birds may require a few additional feathers.
***Ensure the feather tip, which is attached to the skin is present, in order to provide us with necessary tissue cells to extract the proper amount of DNA.**
5. Place the feathers in cotton which is soaked with 70-100% alcohol and put the cotton containing the feathers in a zip log bag and label each bag.
***Each bag should contain feather samples from ONE bird only.**
6. Fill in the Specimen Submission Form with the submitter's information and information about each bird (*for submission of more than one bird*).
7. Kindly send the samples in Styrofoam ice box together with ice pack to;

Kaunter Penerimaan VLSU,
Jabatan Diagnosis Makmal Veterinar,
Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar,
Universiti Putra Malaysia,
43400 UPM Serdang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan.