

Instructions for taking wool hair samples

A correct sampling is unavoidable to receive an optimal amount and quality of DNA. The following information should help you with that.

We need a tuft of wool hair that is the thickness of a pencil.

Sampling:

- 1) The samples should be taken in the shoulder area (Fig. 1) or in the area between the front legs (Fig. 2). Twirl a tuft of wool hair there and pull it out with a quick, jerky movement. If the tuft is too small to ensure the required amount of sample, please take a second wool hair sample.
- 2) Please check whether the hair roots have been plucked with the tuft of wool - from them the DNA will be extracted in the laboratory.
- 3) Please bundle the tuft(s) with adhesive/insulating tape so that the roots are all exposed on one side.



Figure 1: Sampling site shoulder area in a Merinoland sheep.



Figure 2: Sampling site area between the front legs of a Merinoland sheep.

Packing for safe transport:

Pack the wool samples for each animal separately and label the sample bag with the animal's ear tag or a consecutive number that can be assigned to the individual animal.

The following can be used as sample bags:

- sealable plastic bags
- envelopes
- paper folded into small bags

Please make sure to send us the samples **and** the completed investigation order.

The samples can be dispatched unrefrigerated in standard envelopes.

You can find further information on sending samples on our homepage.