

**VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC CENTER  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

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**CEM Collection and Transport Information**

Samples must be collected and transported according to current version of 9CFR 93.301.

Samples are not tested at UNL VDC. Samples must be sent directly to the testing lab. Certified labs can be found at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/lab\\_info\\_services/downloads/ApprovedLabs\\_CEM.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/lab_info_services/downloads/ApprovedLabs_CEM.pdf)

**Specimen Identification**

- A completed submission must accompany each submission and include **all** information about the owner, veterinarian, and horse.
- Location of the horse at the time the sample was collected (including county, city, and state)
- Complete horse identification (name, registration number, color and other markings, age, breed and sex).
- Specimens must be individually and uniquely identified and match the submission form.
- Collection site must be identified.
- Collection date and time must be included on the specimen and/or submission form.

**Collection of samples for horses imported into the US**

- Open mares - cervix or uterus, clitoral fossa, and clitoral sinuses (must have 3 swabs per mare).
- Pregnant - clitoral fossa and clitoral sinuses (must have 2 swabs per mare).
  - **Swabs used to collect samples from the clitoral sinus must be of a small diameter (~.1cm).**
- Stallions - prepuce, urethral sinus, and fossa glandis (must have 3 swabs per stallion).

**Collection of samples for horses exported from the US**

- Samples must be collected according to the requirements of the importing country. Check with the area veterinarian in charge (AVIC) of the current regulations.

**Transport of samples for CEM**

- Swabs must be placed deep into **Amies transport medium with charcoal** (swabs must not be outdated).
- Every sample must be refrigerated (NOT frozen) immediately following collection.
- Swabs must be shipped on **ice packs** (ice packs must be cold when the swabs arrive at the lab).
- Each vial can only contain 1 swab (pooling is not acceptable).
- Samples must **arrive in the lab within 48 hours of collection** (the use of an overnight courier is highly recommended).

**Specimens will be considered a “No Test” if:**

- The specimens are in transit for > 48 hours.
- The specimens are not submitted in Amies with Charcoal transport media.
- The specimens are not shipped on ice packs.
- The specimens yield cultures so overgrown with contaminants that we cannot determine if *Taylorella equigenitalis* is present.
- No bacterial growth of any kind on all medias used.
- **If a sample is classified as a “No Test” for any reason, new specimens will have to be submitted.**

**Additional information**

- The laboratory is required to hold the culture for a minimum of 7 days. Any suspect or positive cultures may take longer.
- Since the shipping time is critical call the testing lab to alert them of the shipment ahead of time so the sample(s) can be opened immediately upon arrival in the lab.