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HOW TO COLLECT FAECAL SAMPLES FOR TESTING

BULK TESTING

1. Collect 10-20 individual faecal samples directly from freshly yarded animals (eg have been in yards < 4hrs). Select animals randomly. Collect ~5g/hd
- OR**
2. Push animals into the corner of the paddock and hold them there for 5-10min.
 3. After 5-10min, allow animals to wander off
 - a. Collect 10-20 samples off the ground. If you can collect 30 samples, this will encompass a larger cross section of the mob/herd
 - i. Samples must be fresh. Fresh samples will be warm
 - ii. Collect an even amount of faeces from each dung patch ~5g/dung patch
 4. Combine all the samples collected into a plastic zip-lock sandwich bag to make one BULK sample
 - a. Use 1 zip-lock bag per mob or per paddock
 5. Go to STEP 9 below

INDIVIDUAL TESTING

6. Run freshly yarded animals into a race and collect ~ 5g (1 teaspoon full) of faeces per animal
7. Place sample into an individual collecting container (eg plastic zip-lock bag or individual collection tray (these can be provided by Dynamic AG on request))
8. Label each sample with the animal's ear tag or reference number
9. Label the bag or tray with: Your name, Mob ID and date collected
10. If using a zip-lock bag, ensure you squeeze as much air out of the bag as possible.
11. Refrigerate sample as soon as possible
12. Avoid collecting samples:
 - a. On Friday afternoon (unless they will be counted on weekend)
 - b. In hot weather (eggs can hatch quickly). Preferably collect in the morning or have an esky on hand to cool samples down once collected in the paddock
 - c. from visually weak or sick animals
13. Deliver or express post samples to:

Steve Cotton - Dynamic AG Consultancy
4 Wells St, Hamilton VIC 3300
14. Ensure you have included your lab submission form. Forms can be downloaded from www.dynamicag.com.au or forms can be emailed to you.
15. If express posting, post earlier in the week (ie Mon/Tue) to ensure samples do not sit at the post office over the weekend
 - a. Wrap sample bag in newspaper to reduce smell and help keep the sample cool
16. Results are sent via email or text message. Select the relevant option when completing your submission form

Please collect sheep and cattle samples the same way. Worm egg counts in cattle older than 12 months are less reliable as these cattle can harbour inhibited L4 larvae of *Ostertagia Spp.*, (Non-Egg laying), which severely limits the accuracy of a worm egg count.

If unsure, please give Steve or Glenys a call on the above numbers