

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Primary Industries and Water | Biosecurity Tasmania

Animal Health Laboratory

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Email specimenreception@nre.tas.gov.au
Website nre.tas.gov.au/AHLabs



nre.tas.gov.au/AHLabs

Report any notifiable animal disease to the 24 hour Emergency Disease Hotline: 1800 675 888

The AHL is a NATA accredited laboratory. Accreditation No. 384
 Details of the accreditation are available at www.nata.com.au.

Laboratory Hours

Specimen Receipt – 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Note: For non-subsidised test prices for **performance** and **companion animals**, and **interstate** samples, please refer to [Page 7](#) of the price list.

Pathology Prices include GST

Test	Price
Tissues fixed in 10 x volume of neutral buffered formalin	
Histopathology – per slide	59.38
Histopathology - slide preparation only	31.35
Histopathology - special stains	31.71
Investigatory PM - Animal > 80kg (cattle adult pig etc.) Per animal	764.65
Investigatory PM -Animal 10-80kg (adult sheep etc.) Up to 2 animals	460.23
Investigatory PM- Animal < 10kg (poultry, neonate) Up to 5 animals	349.76
Post-Mortem Examination – Farmed Salmonid per animal	25.52
Field Investigation Tissue Samples	314.99
Samples from a field post-mortem examination – up to 2 animals	
Cytology	76.02
Fine needle aspirate, impression smear, blood, or fluid smear on clean microscope slide.	
Ovine Abortion Package (1-5 foetuses) Micro, Histo, etc.	349.76
Bovine Abortion Package (1-3 foetuses) Micro, Histo, etc.	404.93

Miscellaneous Charges Prices include GST

Handling Fee and Freight	49.48
Half-hourly Rate – Technical Officer	58.12
Half-hourly Rate – Professional Officer	80.32

Note: Additional costs will be incurred for work performed outside of the laboratory’s normal working hours.

Biochemistry		Prices include GST	
Test		1 st sample	Additional sample
Sample Required			
Pepsinogen		62.32	26.28
Serum, lithium heparin or EDTA plasma (5 ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum or plasma)			
Single Biochemical Test		23.57	
Available analytes: AST, Alb, BHB, CK, Ca, Cl, Creatinine, GGT, GLDH, Glucose, Mg, Phos, K, Na, Total Bili, Total Protein, Urea Serum or lithium heparin plasma (EDTA not suitable) (5 ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum or plasma)			
Additional Biochemical Test (same sample)		7.03	
As for Single Biochemical Test <i>Additional Biochemical Tests will be charged up to the value of an MBA.</i>			
Multiple Biochemical Analysis (MBA) – Tests vary with species		73.30	
Serum or lithium heparin plasma (EDTA not suitable) (5 to 10ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum or plasma)			
Kidney Profile Albumin, Calcium, Creatinine, Globulin, Phos, Total Protein, Urea		49.74	
Serum or lithium heparin plasma (EDTA not suitable) (5 to 10ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum or plasma) <i>Additional Biochemical Tests (not part of this profile) will be charged up to the value of an MBA.</i>			
Liver Profile Albumin, AST, GLDH, GGT, Globulin, Total Bili, Total Protein		49.74	
Serum or lithium heparin plasma (EDTA not suitable) (5 to 10ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum or plasma) <i>Additional Biochemical Tests (not part of this profile) will be charged up to the value of an MBA.</i>			
Aqueous Humour Profile Nitrite and Nitrate, BHB, Ca, Creatinine, Mg, Phos, Urea <i>Ovine AH profile includes glucose.</i>		49.74	
0.5 ml Aqueous Humour (in a plain tube, EDTA not suitable)			
Urinalysis S.G., Dipstick chemistry, Sediment exam		34.55	
10 ml urine (sterile container)			
Biochemistry/Haematology Tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation			
Test		1 st sample	Additional sample
Sample Required			
Complete Blood Count (CBC) RCC, WCC, Hb (red cell indices), PCV, plasma protein, fibrinogen, and blood film assessment * (differential count, morphology, and platelet estimate) Note: Not all tests listed are appropriate for all species. 5-10 ml EDTA or lithium heparin whole blood and blood smear if possible		45.66	
Partial Haematology – Not including blood smear		22.84	
1 to 5 items from the CBC - 5-10 ml EDTA or lithium heparin whole blood			
Partial Haematology – Blood smear only		22.84	
Morphology assessment and platelet estimate* – submitted smear *dependant on smear/sample quality			
Nitrite and Nitrate Screen		23.57	7.03
Serum, lithium heparin or ocular fluid (5 ml of whole blood or at least 1mL of separated serum, plasma, or ocular fluid)			

Microbiology		Prices include GST	
Test		1 st sample	Additional sample
Sample Required			
Micro Culture		58.14	30.92
3 cm ³ tissue /swab in transport medium /5 – 10 g faeces/culture plate etc.			
Mastitis Culture		22.10	
10 ml milk			
Honey Culture		30.60	
Brood comb / 50 ml honey			
Smear Examination		19.25	
Fluorescent Antibody Test		33.31	
Footrot Culture		58.14	30.92
Footrot lesions in footrot transport medium			
Footrot Culture Elastase Activity			
Up to 6 isolates		142.19	
Each additional isolate			22.66
Fish Antibiotic MIC Assay (on request)		62.32	24.93
Scours Package		127.36	73.30
Microbiology and Parasitology 10 – 20 g faeces from each animal Scour packages are for bovines from neonates to 4 months-old			

Microbiology tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation		Prices include GST	
Test			
Sample Required			
Coronavirus Detection			22.10
E. coli K99 Detection			22.10
Epsilon Toxin Detection			22.10
Rotavirus Detection			22.10

Molecular Biology		Prices include GST	
Test			
Sample Required *Note: Further charges may apply for sample processing			
Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG) PCR			72.96
Per abalone *			
A.seminis, B.ovis, H.somni triplex confirmatory conventional PCR			36.30
Culture from semen, joint fluid, or urine			
Aeromonas salmonicida confirmatory conventional PCR			36.30
Culture from skin lesion			
Chytrid PCR			36.30
Dry swabs			
Avian Influenza (AI), Newcastle disease (NDV) PCR			from 72.96
Please contact the laboratory to order transport medium			
RLO PCR			72.96
Liver, kidney, spleen in RNA Later			
Mycoplasma bovis PCR			72.96
5ml milk (Bulk milks, Fluids, Tissues)			
Mycoplasma bovis PCR			30.92
5ml milk (single animal milk)			
Ostreid Herpesvirus Type 1 (POMS, OsHV1) PCR			72.96
Per oyster*			
Pilchard Orthomyxovirus PCR			72.96
Liver, kidney, spleen in RNA Later			
Tasmanian Atlantic Salmon Aquareovirus (TSRV) PCR (Type 1 and Type 2)			72.96
Liver, kidney, spleen in RNA Later			
Yersinia ruckeri prevalence testing PCR			72.96
Please contact the laboratory before sampling			
Molecular Biology Tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation		Prices include GST	
Test	Sample Required *Note: Further charges will apply for sample processing	1 st sample	Additional sample
Bonamia PCR		72.96	
Per oyster*			
BVDV PCR		72.96	
Blood, tissues, swabs, bulk tank milk			
Chlamydia psittacci PCR		72.96	
Please contact the laboratory			
Flavobacterium psychrophilum PCR		36.30	
Skin swabs submitted in transport medium. Contact the laboratory for the medium.			
Johne's PCR		362.99	63.90
faeces or pooled sample			
Leptospira spp. PCR		72.96	
Foetal stomach fluid, abomasal content, joint fluid, or placental tissue			
Perkinsus PCR		72.96	
Per oyster*			

Parasitology	Prices include GST
Test	
Sample Required - If multiple tests are required, please ensure adequate sample submitted as per guidelines. Wormtest Kits are available on request from the Animal Health Laboratory for Ovine (incl. goats and alpacas), Equine and Bovine testing	
Composite Ova Count (Kit provided by AHL)	49.74
10 x 4 g faeces (<i>Wormtest Kit</i>)	
Faecal Egg Count (Quantitative)	27.76
4 g faeces for Ovine or Caprine. 10 g faeces for Bovine	
Individual Ova and/or Coccidia (Qualitative)	27.76
4 g faeces	
Fluke Test	38.74
4 g faeces	
Larval Culture	41.88
25 g faeces collected from rectum (in addition to faecal egg counts)	
Bovine Wormtest (Kit provided by AHL)	120.33
10 g faeces per animal (each Bovine Wormtest kit allows individual testing for 10 animals. If a kit is not used, samples must be submitted in individual containers.)	
Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT) – Individual – Control and Set Up Charges	152.15
4 g faeces	
Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT) – Individual – Each Drench	89.94
4 g faeces	
Lungworm Detection	37.28
10 – 20 g faeces	
Parasite Identification	55.29
Parasitology Tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation	
Prices include GST	
Pasture Spore Test	55.29
200g Pasture	
Total Worm Count	221.73
Entire abomasum and first six metres of small intestine (tied off and packed in ice)	

Serology		Prices include GST
Test		
Sample Required – 2 ml of serum per test unless indicated		
Bluetongue virus AGID		19.25
Brucella abortus CFT		12.46
Brucella ovis CFT		12.46
CAE (Caprine Retrovirus) ELISA		20.75
Johne's Disease ELISA		16.65
Johne's Disease AGID		19.25
Leptospirosis MAT – each serovar		20.75
Mucosal Disease Antigen Capture ELISA		27.76
Serum or ear notch		
Mucosal Disease AGID		19.25
Neospora IFAT		40.58
Q Fever CFT		23.57
Toxoplasmosis (IFAT)		40.58
1 ml clotted whole blood (0.2 ml serum)		
Toxoplasmosis (MAT)		23.57
Serology tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation		Prices include GST
Test		
Sample Required – 2 ml of serum per test unless indicated		
Fluke test (Fasciola Hepatica) ELISA		23.23
Mycoplasma bovis ELISA		20.75
Fish Virology – Tests are not covered by our current scope of accreditation		Prices include GST
Test	1st sample	Additional sample
Sample Required – Note: Notify laboratory when sending samples		
Virus isolation (Single Cell Line)	384.63	57.65
Virus Isolation (Two Cell Lines)	754.31	111.02
Pooled liver, kidney, and spleen		

Non-Subsidised Tests for Interstate, Companion, and Performance Animals		Prices include GST
<p>Note: Except for the exclusion of notifiable diseases, diagnostic services for companion and performance animals are not part of our core business. This is not an exhaustive list of tests available. Please note these tests may be available at full cost recovery. These services listed below may be available on prior negotiation with the laboratory.</p>		
	1 st sample	Additional sample
Post-Mortem Only – Animal > 80kg (e.g., horse)	674.69	
Post-Mortem Only – Animal 10-80kg (e.g., foal, large dog etc.)	311.92	
Post-Mortem Only – Animal < 10kg (e.g., small dog, cat etc.)	189.88	
Post-Mortem Only – Cage Bird, Aquarium Fish – One only	102.42	
Equine Abortion Investigation	414.46	
Histopathology – per slide	74.22	
Histopathology – slide preparation only	39.19	
Histopathology – special stains	39.66	
Cytology Fine needle aspirate, impression smear, blood or fluid smear on clean microscope slide	95.05	
Multiple Biochemical Analysis (MBA) – Tests vary with species (Sample as per page 2) (Available analytes: AST, Alb, BHB, CK, Ca, Cl, Creatinine, GGT, GLDH, Glucose, Mg, Phos, K, Na, Total Bili, Total Protein, Urea)	91.66	
Urinalysis (S.G., Dipstick chemistry, Sediment exam)	43.27	
Fluke Test 4 g faeces	48.43	
Faecal Egg Count (Quantitative) 10 g faeces for Equine. 4 g for all other species	34.67	
Individual Ova and/or Coccidia (Qualitative) 4 g faeces	34.67	
Horse Wormtest (Kit provided by AHL) 10 g faeces per animal Note: each Equine Wormtest kit allows testing for up to 5 animals	60.05	23.79
Leptospirosis MAT – each serovar 2 ml clotted blood	26.06	
Neospora IFAT 2ml serum	50.66	
Toxoplasmosis (MAT)	29.46	
Toxoplasmosis (IFAT) 1 ml clotted blood (0.2 ml serum)	50.66	
Mucosal Disease AGID 2ml serum	24.13	
Mucosal Disease Antigen Capture ELISA Serum or ear notch	34.67	
Fluorescent Antibody Test	41.69	
Micro Culture	72.62	
Smear Examination	24.13	
Hendra Disease G1 and G2 qPCR Kidney, heart, spleen and foetal tissue, clotted blood or EDTA blood	121.45	
Non-Subsidised Tests not covered by our current scope of accreditation		Prices include GST
Complete Blood Count (Sample as per page 2) (RCC, WCC, Hb, PCV, red cell indices, differential count and morphology assessment, platelet estimate, plasma protein, fibrinogen) Note: Not all tests listed are appropriate for all species.	56.99	
Partial Haematology (Sample as per page 2) (1 to 5 items from the CBC, not including differential white cell count or morphology assessment)	28.50	
Emergent Larvae Detection Test 4g faeces	36.83	

Collection of specimens

Please **notify** laboratory staff of material being sent to the laboratory that may pose a danger to staff (zoonotic material) e.g., Anthrax, Lyssavirus.

Note: inadequate specimens, poorly collected specimens or specimens stored and dispatched in an unsatisfactory manner may not be examined by the laboratory.

Submissions **must** be accompanied by a specimen advice note with sufficient information to allow the pathologist to interpret test results and provide a meaningful diagnosis.

Except for worm test kits, a veterinarian, or veterinary practice **must** be nominated under the section headed *Name and Address for Reply*. Wormtest kits are available, on request, from the laboratory.

All samples must be submitted -

- in leak proof containers,
- cleaned of any contaminants e.g., spilt blood, faeces etc.,
- securely stoppered,
- clearly labelled,
- filled to the recommended volume,
- kept to a minimum transit time,
- kept cool and out of direct sun light,
- protected from mechanical shock.

Section	Turnaround time (working days)	Notes
Biochemistry/ Haematology	2 to 3 days	Except pepsinogen
Histopathology	3 to 6 days	Tissues submitted fixed (Longer for decalcification or whole brains)
Fish Virology	15 to 21 days	Long incubation times are required for virus isolation
Microbiology	5 to 10 days	Reporting times vary depending on type of test Footrot cultures – 14 to 28 days Footrot Elastase test – Additional 28 days
Molecular Biology	3 to 5 days	Test dependent
Parasitology	2 to 3 days	Larval culture – 8 to 10 days
Necropsy Report	1 to 2 days	
Serology	3 to 6 days	Some tests are carried out weekly or bi-weekly Virus isolation/serum neutralisation 3 to 4 weeks
Sendaway Tests	Test Dependent	Please contact the laboratory for estimated reporting times

Result Reporting

Completed reports will be emailed to the nominated veterinarian or practice. Practices that do not have email facilities will receive results by post.

If required, owners can obtain copies of the report from their veterinarian. Except for worm test results, the laboratory **will not provide owners** with copies of reports.

Urgent results can be phoned through on request. Any unusual or abnormal results will be communicated as soon as they become apparent.