

Description

Bovine Venereal Campylobacteriosis (BVC) is caused by *Campylobacter fetus* subsp. *venerealis* and characterised by early embryonic death and infertility. Abortion occurs in a 5-10% of infected cows.

The Campylobacter ELISA detects IgA antibodies in the vaginal mucus of infected cattle and is useful for infertility and abortion investigations where *Campylobacter fetus* subsp. *venerealis* infection is suspected.

Samples from Abortions

The ELISA can be used to diagnose abortion in individual animals. Animals which have aborted may be sampled 1 week to 3 months following abortion.

Samples from Infertility

The ELISA is offered as a herd test in cases of infertility where BVC infection is suspected. Representative numbers of animals (usually 10) are sampled.

In herds where abortion occurs, and infertility exists, samples can be collected from both groups.

Equipment Required

1. 4.5 ml phosphate buffered saline containing 0.05% Tween 20 (PBST), preferred transport medium
2. Sterile swab

These items are available from the [laboratory upon request](#).

Method

- Following cleaning of the perineum the swab is introduced into the vagina as cranially as possible. The swab should be pressed against the vaginal wall and turned a few times to ensure full saturation. Only slight faecal contamination of the swab is acceptable.
- Following sampling, the cotton head of the swab should be cut and placed in PBST, chilled to 4°C and then dispatched with the completed specimen advice form to the testing laboratory as soon as practicable.
- Sampling vaginal mucus with Tricamper™ and submitting for testing is not recommended as an alternative to swab technique.

Contact Us

For assistance or further information contact Customer Service.

Business hours:	8:30am – 5:00pm Monday – Friday (excluding public holidays)
Phone:	1800 675 623
Email:	laboratory.services@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Delivery address:	NSW DPI Laboratory Services Woodbridge Road Menangle, NSW 2568

Reference

Hum S, Stephens LR, Quinn C. (1991) Diagnosis by ELISA of bovine abortion due to *Campylobacter fetus*
Aust Vet J.68:272-5