

30 AUGUST 2007

EQUINE INFLUENZA

CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER COMMUNICATION #1

Notes to all registered veterinary practitioners

FURTHER ADVICE RE COLLECTING AND SUBMITTING LABORATORY SAMPLES

Viral transport medium (PBGS) and swabs should be available from all RLPB offices.

PBGS should be stored frozen and thawed prior to use.

Collect 1 swab from each nostril.

Place **both** swabs in the **same** container of transport medium – do **not** put each swab in a separate container. Label with a key number and put the animal ID on the specimen advice form.

Keep swabs chilled but do not freeze.

In an emergency use sterile saline in a suitable container (preferably 5 mL screw top vial) but do **not** put more than 3 mL of saline in the vial.

Collect a single 10mL sample of blood in a plain vacutainer.

Always fill out a specimen advice form and send this to the lab with the specimens.

Private practitioners can access specimen advice form at the DPI website at

<http://www.agric.nsw.gov.au/reader/6531>

Paperwork **must** be placed in one zip-lock bag and swabs and blood samples another zip-lock bag – do not put paperwork and samples together in the same bag.

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (30 August 2007). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of New South Wales Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.