

Avian DNA Testing

Submission Form

Please complete using **black** ink and BLOCK CAPITALS.

Section 1 – Submitter's Information

Organisation (if applicable):

Name:

Address:

Town/City:

County:

Post Code:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Website:

Section 2 – Sample Information

Sample	Species (required)	Name / ID of Bird (bird's name, cage no., band no., etc.)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

Section 3 – Payment Information (Unless Paid in Advance)

Amount:	Payment by: <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (payable to Endeavor DNA Lab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Card (see below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Debit / Delta <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Electron <input type="checkbox"/>		Expiry Date:
Card No:		CVC No
Billing Address:		(last 3 digits on reverse):
Town/City:	County:	Post Code:
Cardholder's Signature:	Date: / /	

Section 4 – Agreement

I hereby certify that the information provided on this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge, and I affirm that the DNA sample was collected and labelled properly. I understand that all test results and documentation will be provided to only me, unless otherwise specified.

Signature:

Date: / /

Additional Kits

Number of additional kits required:
(leave blank if not applicable)

Notes

- Please DO NOT send cash and cheques in the post as we do not accept these types of payments. Order your test online and use one of our payment methods available to carry out payment.
- We recommend sending kits by courier with a tracking number to ensure timely delivery.

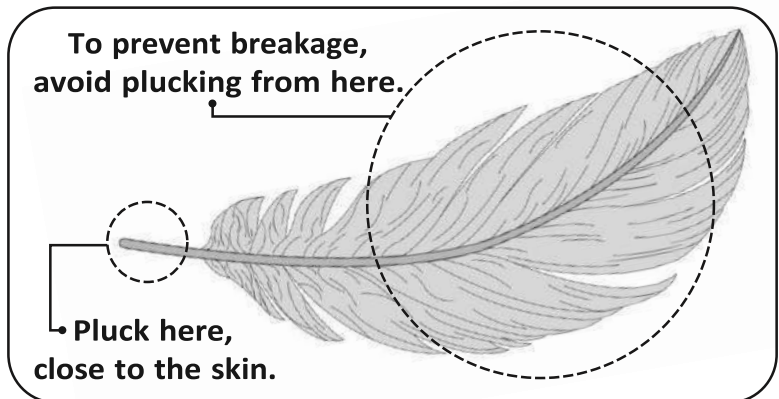
Avian DNA Testing

Feather Collection Procedure

If you are inexperienced at handling birds, we recommend that feather samples be taken by an experienced bird handler or by a veterinarian. This precaution is for the bird's and your own safety.

Feathers for avian DNA testing should be freshly plucked, not naturally moulted. DNA is contained at the base of the feather, which originates just below the surface of the skin. It is important to pluck each feather individually and close to the skin. Use a pair of sanitized tweezers, if necessary—particularly with smaller birds. Avoid plucking feathers from the opposite end or plucking in clumps, as this may cause the shafts to break off above the skin, rendering them unusable. **See illustration.**

Before taking any feather samples, make sure that your hands are clean. Avoid touching the ends of the feather shafts. Follow the steps below to ensure proper feather collection for the avian DNA test.



1. Label the Bag

Before you start collecting the feather samples, label the bag with the sub-mitter's name, species of bird collected, and a Bird ID. The Bird ID can be the bird's name, band number, or cage number. Use the same Bird ID on the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form so that you can match the final DNA results to the bird.

2. Pluck Chest Feathers

Collect 3 feathers with quills (i.e., flight feathers) from the tail, wing, or chest of the bird to be tested. Primary feathers or feathers with blood at the tips are NOT required. Each feather should be between 5 and 10 cm in length.

For small birds (either juvenile or small-bodied species), it may be necessary to collect 4 to 5 feathers from any part of the plumage to obtain sufficient material.

Do not collect feathers that have already fallen to the ground. Feathers must be plucked directly from the bird and placed immediately into the provided bag. Handle feathers as little as possible and avoid touching the base (quill) of the feather.

3. Place Feathers in the Labelled Bag

Place the feathers in the bag that was labelled in Step 1. Avoid touching the ends of the feather shafts. The bag should contain feather samples from only **ONE** bird.

4. Fill Out the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form

Complete the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form with the submitter's information, information about the bird including Bird ID. Place the sealed samples together with the completed submission form inside the reply envelope and post to us at the address indicated.

Avian DNA Testing

Blood Collection Procedure

Please follow the steps below to collect blood for an avian DNA test. When collecting blood, use caution to avoid DNA sample cross-contamination and/or bird infection. Avoid touching the circle on the Avian Blood Sample Card where the blood is to be placed. If you are collecting samples from more than one bird, you should sanitise the nail clippers with alcohol and wash your hands thoroughly between each collection.

1. Label The Avian Blood Sample Card to be Used

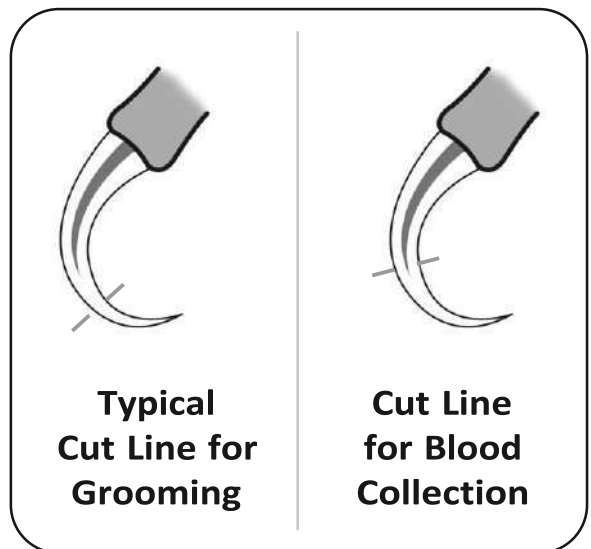
Before you start collecting the samples, label the Avian Blood Sample Card to be used with the submitter's name, species of bird collected, and a Bird ID. The Bird ID can be the bird's name, band number, or cage number. Use the same Bird ID on the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form so that you can match the final DNA results to the correct bird.

2. Clip Toenail to Obtain a Blood Sample

With the bird under control, examine the toenail to ensure it is clean. A swab of alcohol can be used to clean the area, if necessary. Use a sanitized pair of nail clippers to clip the bird's toenail just enough to nick the vein (approximately 2/3 of the distance from the root of the nail) and produce blood flow. **See illustration.**

3. Spot Blood on the Blood Card

Remove the first bead of blood with a swab or absorbent cotton ball and discard. Next, carefully touch the Avian Blood Sample Card to the blood flow and absorb a few drops of blood onto the card. If the blood flow is slow, gently squeeze on the toe with a pumping action. It is not necessary to completely fill the circle on the card with blood; just be sure to collect enough blood to be visible (usually 1-3 drops of blood).



4. Allow the Blood Sample to Air Dry Completely

Once the sample has been collected, set the Avian Blood Sample Card aside to air dry on a clean surface. Check that the bird is no longer bleeding before returning it to its cage. To stop further bleeding, apply a coagulant, such as Kwik Stop, to the area. Cornstarch, flour, or baking soda may also be applied as alternatives.

Allow the card to air dry completely by leaving it at room temperature for 60-90 minutes. Once the card is completely dry, insert it into the small bag provided. Avoid touching the blood sample area while handling the card. Post the sample to us as soon as possible after collection.













5. Fill Out the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form

Complete the accompanying Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form with the submitter's information, information about the bird including Bird ID. Place the sealed sample together with the completed submission form inside our reply envelope and mail to us.

Avian DNA Testing

Blood Sample Cards

These cards can be used for Avian DNA Testing. Simply collect blood samples for your bird and cut along the dotted lines. Only 1 card is needed to test your bird. Please refer to the **Avian Sample Collection Procedure – Blood Collection** document for instructions on sample collection. Also, please complete the **Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form**.

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