



Sampling Fish for Laboratory Analysis

Aquaculture SA

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More comprehensive instructions are included in the Sampling fish for laboratory analysis: Instructions booklet. If you have any queries regarding sample collection VPS can be contacted on (08) 8372 3710.

Sample collection

Live finfish

Five to ten fish in a plastic bag filled 2/3 full with water from the same cage, pond or tank and placed on an ice brick.

Live crustaceans or molluscs

Five to ten live animals packed as for live sales, that is with ice bricks.

Dead fish

If live fish are not available or sending live fish is not practical, five to ten freshly dead fish on ice bricks can be sent. Fish dead for more than a few hours are of little use. Frozen fish are of little use.

Post mortem samples

If live fish are not available or sending live fish is not practical, trained growers or local veterinarians can perform post mortems and prepare samples for posting.

Water samples collected from 20 cm under the surface in a clean bottle may not be necessary but could be useful.

Sample packaging

All samples should be packed in a sealed bag, placed on an ice brick and sealed in a foam esky with the consignment note visible on top. It is important that water and ice melt can not spill from the container.

For samples sent by airfreight, IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations, 650 Packing Instructions, need to be followed.



Sample labelling and recording

The minimum information to put on a sample label is:

- farm and site name
- cage, pond or tank number
- fish number
- date

Alternatively:

- unique case number ,that corresponds to records sent with the samples to the laboratory and a copy kept on the property
- date

Sending Samples

The following free courier options apply:

State Pathology Services is the preferred courier. They will collect samples from all parts of the metropolitan area and country towns that have an IMVS laboratory.

The following towns have IMVS laboratories (phone numbers included):

- Berri Hospital 8582 3399
- Gawler Health Service 8521 2170
- Mount Gambier Mount Gambier Hospital 8721 1666
- Murray Bridge Murray Bridge Hospital 8535 6793
- Port Augusta Port Augusta Hospital 8648 5750
- Port Lincoln Port Lincoln Hospital 8683 2289
- Port Pirie Port Pirie Hospital 8632 0674
- Victor Harbour South Coast District Hospital 8552 4658
- Wallaroo Wallaroo Hospital 8823 2169
- Whyalla Whyalla Hospital 8648 8388
- Wards Skyroad
- Security Express
- Busfreight

Contact the closest of the couriers listed above for details of collection and timing. The cost of other couriers will have to be paid by the sender unless previously arranged with VPS.

Consignment notes can be obtained from VPS in advance. When filling out consignment notes the following information is required:

- Sender: senders details
- Receiver: VPS, 33 Flemington St, Glenside SA 5065, ph 8372 3710
- Account number: Wards Skyroad WL 2665, Security Express IMVS00, Busfreight 602433
- Standard services: Select overnight express
- Description of goods: Animal diagnostic sample "Not Restricted"

If you do not have a consignment note or if a consignment note is not required e.g. busfreight, include all relevant information clearly displayed on the samples.

Further Information

PIRSA Aquaculture SA
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