



Maryland  
Department of Agriculture

Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Kevin M. Atticks, Secretary  
Steven A. Connelly, Deputy Secretary

Animal Health

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry  
mda.maryland.gov

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building  
50 Harry S Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-841-5810 Baltimore/Washington  
410-841-5999 Fax

## **Accredited Veterinarians Guide for the Collection and Submission of Dairy Cattle Samples for Pre-Movement Testing**

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is committed to assisting the dairy industry as it navigates recent testing requirements enacted by the USDA.

According to the Federal Order issued on April 24, 2024, lactating dairy cattle are required to have a negative HPAI PCR test within 7 days of interstate movement.

Veterinarians are encouraged to contact the Maryland Dept of Agriculture Animal Health Program at 410-841-5810 or email [MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov](mailto:MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov) to discuss testing protocol. Fees for testing bovine specimens for HPAI are paid by the USDA.

### **Sample Collection and Testing for Interstate Pre-movement Testing of Lactating Dairy Cattle per USDA Guidance**

- Samples must be collected under the supervision of a licensed or accredited veterinarian or as determined by the respective State Animal Health Official. Designated individuals on production sites can be trained to collect milk samples and nasal swab samples for diagnostic testing.
- The pre-movement testing requirement does NOT apply to non-clinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate directly to slaughter. Those cattle will require an Owner- Hauler Statement to accompany movement to slaughter.
- **Milk samples:** Samples to be collected include milk/udder secretions from individual cows. Do not pool samples from different cows.
  - Each quarter is sampled and combined into one screw top tube sample for submission to the laboratory.
  - Submissions must be between **10-12 ml of milk per animal**.
  - Label each sample with **Farm Name** and **Bovine Tag ID**
- For groups/lots of 30 or fewer animals moving interstate, all animals being moved must be tested. If more than 30 animals are moving interstate, then only 30 animals total must be tested.
- Sample collection and testing must take place no more than seven (7) days prior to interstate movement.
- **For testing of symptomatic cattle or screening of nonlactating cattle, please contact at 410-841-5810 or email [MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov](mailto:MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov)**
  - Non-milk samples for testing that do not fall under the USDA movement requirements should be submitted separately.



Maryland  
Department of Agriculture

Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Kevin M. Atticks, Secretary  
Steven A. Connelly, Deputy Secretary

Animal Health

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry  
mda.maryland.gov

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building  
50 Harry S Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-841-5810 Baltimore/Washington  
410-841-5999 Fax

### **National Premises Registration ID:**

A National Premise Registration Number is REQUIRED for testing. If the property does not have a PIN (Prem ID Number), please complete a [Premises Registration form](#) to submit prior to /or with the sample submission.

### **Submitting Samples to MDA Laboratories**

To ensure a prompt result, it is recommended that samples be submitted to the lab within 24 hours of collection. Please note that the tubes must be delivered to the lab no later than 72 hours after collection or samples may be rejected.

It is critical to submit samples properly packaged with thoroughly completed paperwork that includes the premise ID to mitigate any potential delays in testing.

#### **Ship or Drop off samples to:**

**Salisbury Animal Health Laboratory  
27722 Nanticoke Road Unit 3  
Salisbury, MD 21801**

#### **Samples can also be dropped off to: (samples will be shipped to Salisbury for testing each day)**

**Frederick Animal Health Laboratory  
1840 Rosemont Avenue  
Frederick, MD 21702**

1. Completely fill out the BOVINE Influenza Services Request Form including the premises ID.
2. Place sample tubes in a plastic bag with absorbent material. Use an insulated shipping container. Ship overnight with cold packs.
3. Place a copy of the BOVINE Influenza Services Request Form & [Premises Registration form](#) (if needed) in a separate plastic bag and place on top of samples and ice packs so that it is the first item seen when opening the box.
4. Write large "Fs" on all 6 sides of the shipping box.
5. Email [MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov](mailto:MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov) with the tracking number of the shipment and a copy of the completed submission form. In the body of the email please write that you are sending samples for bovine HPAI testing.

If there are any further questions or concerns, please contact the Maryland Dept of Agriculture Animal Health Program at 410-841-5810 or email [MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov](mailto:MD.DairyHPAI@maryland.gov)