

Brief instructions for taking cheek swabs

You can order the cheek swab kit from Genomia laboratory and that either directly on the website (you will be assigned a sample number by the ordering system that is to be used for the identification of examined animal), by e-mail or by phone. You can also use your own sterile tube and brush for the cheek swab.

The cheek swab samples can be taken by the breeder or the vet. At the same time, the vet can confirm the correctness of the sample origin.

The cheek swab kit delivered by Genomia contains:

- 2 x Sterile brushes (two brushes for one animal)
- Long envelope for placing the brush
- A bubble envelope with return address

Cheek swab collection procedure:

Recommendation: Take samples of one animal only at a time! If you have to take samples of several animals, first finish completely the sample collection from the first animal before you continue with the other one. In this way, you prevent the mutual contamination of samples.

1. Label legibly the enclosed long envelope with the animal identification data (sample number, if assigned; name of the animal, chip...).
2. The oral cavity of the animal should be clean before the cheek swab. The animal should not eat or drink 15 minutes before the sample collection.
3. Remove the sterile brush from the packaging. Do not touch the brush! Pay attention that the brush does not get into contact with other surface than the cheek of the examined animal.
4. Place the brush between the cheek and the jawbone, and firmly scrape the brush against the inside of the animal's cheek 10 times in the opposite directions, rolling the brush to coat with cells. Try to coat the brush on all sides with cells from cheek mucous. Do not brush tongue and saliva. After finishing, you should be able to see the cells coating the brush.
5. Air dry the brush for several minutes - don't put it down, hold the brush in the hand. A wet brush may cause that fouling process is started on the way to the laboratory.
6. Place the dry brush directly in the labelled long envelope.
7. Repeat the procedure in paragraphs 3-6 using the second brush. Both brushes place into the same envelope and seal it.
8. Then, place the long envelope with the brush in the bubble envelope with the return address and send it by regular mail to the laboratory address: **Genomia s.r.o., Janáčkova 51, 323 00 Plzeň, Czech Republic**

Measure to be taken when taking cheek swabs from nursed young animals!

When taking cheek swabs from nursed young animals, there is a danger of sample contamination with mother cells. Mutual licking of the young animals may also cause that incorrect test results are obtained!

Please, be aware that the nursed young animals should not be in contact with the mother and their brothers and sisters at least 30 minutes before the cheek swab. It is recommended that the young animal have something to eat and drink to clean mechanically the oral cavity. After drinking and eating wait another 15 minutes before you take the cheek swab.

Notice: *Kennel Club can have specific requirements for collecting samples. Samples taken without confirmation of the identity of the relevant individual by an independent authority may not be recognized by the Kennel Club.*

