

Guidelines for pulling hair root samples for Genomic testing:



Step 1

Prepare the animal by safely constraining it. Comb or brush the tail area at the upper part of the switch to remove any foreign material. Dirty, contaminated samples will not be processed. If necessary, wash and rinse area with water; allow to dry before taking samples. (Use withers, topline, or ears as alternatives.)



Step 2

Collect hair by grabbing, with one hand, the tail switch just below the end of the tailbone. From the tail area just above the hand, wind approximately five strands of hair around a finger. Give a sharp pull to remove strands. Repeat until 35 to 40 hair roots/follicles are gathered. (Pliers can be used if hair is too short.)



Step 3

Inspect the hair to ensure that hair roots/follicles are attached. They look like glass beads. Hair strands without hair roots/follicles do not contain DNA and cannot be analyzed.



Step 4

Position all hair roots/follicles together and bundle. Secure the hair roots/follicles entirely on the Genomic testing form with clear adhesive tape (be sure all hair roots are covered with tape). Fold form and insert into an envelope or sealable plastic bag. If submitting more than one sample ensure that each is in a separate envelop/bag to prevent cross contamination.

Mail samples to: Holstein Canada
c/o Genomic Testing
P.O. Box 610
Brantford, ON N3T 5R4