



Herd Health Diagnostics
1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd. Ste. 109
Pullman, WA 99163
Phone: 509.715.1131
Email: amber@herdhealthdiagnostics.com

JOHNES ELISA

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Johne's disease?

A: Johne's disease is a chronic and highly contagious and typically fatal infection that affects primarily the small intestines of ruminants. This widely distributed wasting disease of all ruminants is caused by mycobacterium avium ssp. Paratuberculosis (MAP). Major clinical signs include weight loss, diarrhea, edema, decreased milk production and eventually death. In cattle, symptoms are rarely evident until 2 or more years after the initial infection which typically occurs shortly after birth. In sheep and goats, symptoms are less evident and affected animals usually show signs before they are 1 year of age.¹

Q: How does the Johnes ELISA work?

A: The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) detects antibodies to Mycobacterium avium subsp. Paratuberculosis (MAP) in sera. The test is highly sensitive and specific for diagnosis of clinically affected animals.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: \$5.00 per sample.

Q: How long does it take to receive results?

A: Samples are tested weekly on Wednesdays with results on Wednesday. Samples must arrive on or before the Tuesday prior to testing in order to be run that Wednesday. Samples that arrive on Wednesdays or later will be held until the following week's test day.

Q: How long are samples good for and how do I ship?

A: It is recommended that samples are shipped overnight or 2nd day delivery (via FedEx or UPS) on ice.

Q: How much sample do I need to collect?

A: A good rule of thumb is to collect 1-2 ccs for each test requested.

Q: Can multiple tests be run on one sample?

A: Yes! One sample can be used for multiple services. Additional services available for cattle include: BioPRYN (pregnancy), Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) and Bovine Leukosis Virus (BLV). Additional services available for small ruminants include: BioPRYN (pregnancy), Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE). Ovine Progressive Pneumonia (OPP) and Caseous Lymphadenitis (CL). When using one sample for multiple services, be sure to collect 1-2 milliliters of blood for each service (i.e. if wanting 3 tests, collect about 3-6 mls of blood).

Q: What blood collection supplies do I need and where do I buy it?

A: We recommend a plain, 3-5 ml, plastic, red top tube (with or without clot activator) or serum separator tube (tiger). If using a tiger top tube, be sure to fill the tube $\frac{3}{4}$ full or more. We recommend using an 18 or 20-gauge double sided needle by 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. You may also use a syringe and then transfer to a blood tube as well. If you need help deciding what is best for you, contact Herd Health Diagnostics.

Supplies can be purchased through the BioTracking Store, your local vet supply or ranch or farm store. There are also many online stores such as Amazon who sell supplies.

Q: How do I label tubes for testing?

A: Each tube should be labeled in sharpie with a tube sequence number (e.g. 1, 2, 3, etc.) and unique animal ID or ear tag # (e.g. 875).

Q: Who do I contact for more information?

A: Contact Amber at Herd Health Diagnostics from 8:30 am to 4 pm Pacific Time, Monday – Friday. The testing lab number is 509.715.1131 and her email is amber@herdhealthdiagnostics.com

References:

[1] USDA Aphis. Johnes Disease. September 2, 2019. Retrieved from:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/NVAP-Reference-Guide/Control-and-Eradication/Johnes-Disease>