

# Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory

#### Who are we?

The Animal Health Diagnostic (AHD) Laboratory analyzes about 400 samples per day. The lab is A2LA Accredited, meeting the ISO 17025 standards, for sampled based pregnancy and Johne's analyses.

Many milk pregnancy and Johne's analyses are run on samples that are already tested in our milk lab for standard DHI component analyses. Using the same sample allows for greater efficiency both on the farm and in the lab. For those farms that are not on a regular testing schedule or who do not have dairy cows, Dairy One has a variety of ways to make it as easy as possible to get samples into the lab for processing.



# **Sample Based Pregnancy Testing**

Dairy One offers both milk and blood pregnancy testing using the analysis developed by IDEXX Laboratories. It works by detecting Pregnancy Associated Glycoproteins (PAGs), which are only present in a pregnant animal.

# Milk Pregnancy Testing

Using the same milk sample that is collected by your DHI technician on test day, the AHD Lab will run a pregnancy test to determine if the cow is open or pregnant. Tests can be run as early as 28 days post breeding or 60 days post calving. Dairy One also offers kits for strip samples so you can test anytime between DHI test days, or use the kits if you do not currently participate in a regular DHI testing program.

Species	Bovine	Goat/Caprine	Sheep/Ovine	Water Buffalo
Min DPB	28	28	60	29
Min DPC	60	60	80	40

### **Blood Pregnancy Testing**

This test can be used on cows who are 29 days post breeding or 90 days post calving. These are not hormones that naturally fluctuate, but rather substances that are present in an animal only when it is pregnant.

Species	Bovine	Goat/ Caprine	Sheep/ Ovine	Water Buffalo	Bison
Min DPB	28	28	35	30	Undetermined
Min DPC	60	Undetermined	Undetermined	60	Undetermined
Tube Type	Any	Serum only: clotted, red-top tube	Serum only: clotted, red-top tube	Plasma only: unclotted, purple-top tube	Plasma only: unclotted, purple-top tube

#### Johne's Testing

The Johne's Disease test detects the presence of antibodies associated with the disease and does not test for the disease directly. Antibodies are produced by the cow's body as an immune response to the presence of the disease. The best time to test cows for Johne's is during the dry period, just prior to calving. In this case, blood tests are most often used. If tests are done after calving, then Johne's testing can be done with a milk sample.

#### **Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) Testing**

BVD is a viral disease that has the potential to cause serious economic losses in a dairy herd. Testing will allow you to take steps early to minimize or eradicate the disease, increasing the likelihood for better overall herd health and greater milk production.

The best time to test for BVD is immediately after a calf is born. Blood can be submitted for testing from calves that are either pre-colostral or more than 3 months old. Ear notches or milk can be used to test any cow.

Milk and blood diagnostic kits can be ordered online at **dairyone.com/shop**.



# Scan for more information