

LAB MATTERS

News and updates from the UGA
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories



HPAI Testing in Dairy Cattle for Interstate Movement

The Georgia Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories at Athens and Tifton are committed to assisting the dairy industry as it navigates recent testing requirements enacted by the USDA for Interstate Movement Testing.

It is critical samples are submitted to the labs properly packaged with thoroughly completed paperwork to mitigate any potential delays in testing.

We recommend all dairy samples submitted for movement testing meet the following criteria to assist in timely accessioning and testing:

- Collect and combine the milk from each quarter into one sample for submission to the laboratory.
- For each animal, collect 5-10 mL of milk in a milk collection tube or a red top tube with no additives.
- Submitters must include the Submission Form with all fields completed, including all signalment and the **Premises ID**.
- Specify the submission is for required movement testing by writing “movement” at the top of the form or in the history section.
- For testing, request: Influenza Type A under “PCR”
- For accessions with multiple animals (maximum 30), please include all animal IDs (either in the history, back of the accession sheet or on a separate sheet of paper.
- For shipping, bag labeled samples, place in a Styrofoam container with ample absorbent and cushioning material and cold packs. Place paperwork in a separate ziploc bag. Place the Styrofoam container in a larger cardboard container.
- Discounted UPS shipping labels can be requested from both labs ahead of time.
- Samples received at the laboratories are expected to have a turnaround time of 3 days.

*For questions related to dairy cattle movement testing:
Athens Lab - call 706-542-5568 or email athndlab@uga.edu
Tifton Lab - call 229-386-3340 or email dlab@uga.edu.*