

## Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory Jalandhar

### Important guidelines for dispatch of cloacal, tracheal & Serum samples for routine Avian Influenza surveillance

- **Samples should positively reach at RDDDL Jalandhar within 48 hours of collection maintaining 4°C temperature.** (There must be **sufficient gel (ice) packing** in the carton containing the samples)
- Send the cloacal/ tracheal/ environmental swab samples in **sterile, leak proof, screw capped plastic vials containing 3.0 ml of Viral Transport Medium** (PBS with 1% Bovine Serum Albumin (pH 7.2-7.4))
- Viral Transport Medium should contain suitable **antibiotic and antifungal agents** in appropriate concentration ( Benzyl-penicillin-2X10 IU/l, Streptomycin-200mg/l& Nystatin- 500000IU/l OR Polymixin-B-2x10 IU/l & Nystatin-500000 IU/l OR Gentamicin-Sulphate-250 mg/l & Nystatin-500000 IU/l)
- Cloacal Swabs must contain minimum **1.0 g faecal material**
- Send at least 0.5 ml serum samples in 1.0 or 2.0 ml **sterile, leak proof, screw capped plastic vials. Serum samples should not be hemolysed/ turbid and volume of serum should not be less than 0.5 ml.**
- The samples should be **sent on regular basis** and should not be allowed to accumulate at your place for sending to RDDDL in bulk. **RDDL will not receive any backlog samples** because it does not serve the purpose of regular and timely surveillance.
- Send the samples **every month from all blocks** (according to the targets attached) considering administrative block as a geographical unit.
- For routine surveillance, collect **only one cloacal, one tracheal and one serum sample** from one poultry farm/ backyard poultry unit.
- Swab samples from a village should be pooled category wise. A **pooled sample should comprise of six individual samples**
- Mark each vial properly with a **water proof marker pen** before putting it into ice packing .
- **Sample coding should be done properly** as follows - State code /District code /Bird code /Sample name code/Sample number code (for Ex .-PB/JAL/F/CL/1).
- Sample number code should be **continuous throughout the year** category wise.
- **Performa for sending samples should be filled properly.** Fill separate performa for different type of birds like Fowl, Ducks, Turkey, Quail, Pigeon, Migratory birds etc. (Filled & blank Performa is attached for reference). **No sample shall be received without duly filled proper performa.**
- Samples from different type of birds like Fowl, Ducks, Turkey, Quail, Pigeon, Migratory birds etc. should be packed separately.
- Container having samples should be clearly marked and labeled.
- The sample dispatching authority should **maintain a sufficiently descriptive record** for each dispatched samples.

**Samples will not be received at RDDDL Jalandhar if the above guidelines are not followed while collecting and sending the samples to RDDDL Jalandhar.**

For any clarification consult experts at RDDDL Jalandhar and the revised Action Plan on “Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza” March 2015 issued by the GOI available at [www.dahd.nic.in](http://www.dahd.nic.in)