

Oral Fluids Step by Step Checklist

1. We recommend reading the NAHMS Swine 2021 Oral Fluids Instructions and watching the following video:
<https://www.securepork.org/training-materials/disease-monitoring-sample/>

2. **You are required to use the provided kit and paperwork for sampling and submission.**

Prepare for sampling:

- Remove the 3 ice packs from the kit and freeze them completely (24 hours) before shipping.
- Select up to **8 pens** of finisher pigs that are roughly equidistant from one another to sample.
- Cut the rope so that each rope segment will hang at shoulder length for most of the animals in the pen for each of the 8 pens.

3. At the time of sampling:

- Unravel the strands at the end of the rope in the pen.
- Wait 30-45 minutes while the pigs chew on the ropes.
- For each pen, insert the chewed end of each rope into a quart sized Ziploc® bag and cut the part that's inside the bag from the remainder of the rope still hanging.
- Manually squeeze the rope pieces while inside the Ziploc® bag to release the oral fluid. Place the rope piece in one of the liner trash bags.
- Cut the corner of the Ziploc® bag and let the fluid drip into a 50 ml centrifuge tube until the tube is half full. Put the lid on each centrifuge tube, and check that the lid is straight and tight. Place the quart sized bag remnant in the same liner trash bag as the rope piece.
- Label the tubes:** Write the 6-digit Farm ID (operation-site), Facility, and Pen IDs on a centrifuge tube label and attach the labels onto a centrifuge tube. Place the tube back in its box.
- Repeat for the other 7 pens.

4. Fill out the Collection Form

- Include the **6-digit Farm ID, Kit ID**, and the other information asked in the header.
- Fill out the chart with rows pertaining to each rope sample.
- Keep yellow copy of the collection record for you records.

5. Prepare the samples for shipping

- Place boxed centrifuge tubes in the **gallon** sized Ziploc® plastic bag and seal.
- Place the Ziploc® bag inside the second liner bag with **3 frozen ice packs** and the absorbent sheet.
- Place the liner bag inside the insulated shipment container and close the shipping container lid.
- Place the original (white) collection record on top of the insulated cooler box lid.**

6. Shipping

- Keep samples cool, on ice, and shipped with 24 hours of collection.**
- Be sure the ice packs are completely frozen before shipping.
- Secure the shipping box.
- Fill out and attach the pre-paid airbill pre-addressed to ISU and attach it to the shipping box.
- Drop off the shipping box at a local Fed-Ex shipping site.