

Protocol for Collection of Blood on Whatman FTA Cards

1. Always wear gloves when handling cards to avoid contamination.
2. Store unused cards in original packaging in a cool, dry, clean environment.
3. Label the FTA card with the appropriate sample identification.
4. Drop the blood ($< 125 \mu\text{l}$ per 1 inch circle, $< 75 \mu\text{l}$ per $\frac{3}{4}$ inch circle) on to the card in a concentric circular motion within the printed circle area.
5. Avoid “puddling” of the liquid sample as it will overload the chemicals on the card.
6. Do not rub or smear the blood onto the card.
7. Let card dry 3-5 minutes.
8. Place each card in its own labeled envelope. Label each envelope with locality information (as specific as possible), species, individual ID, age and sex if known, name of collector, date collected and any other pertinent information.
9. Please send samples to the NWRC lab as soon as possible.

National Wildlife Research Center
Attn: Toni Piaggio or Melissa Neubaum
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SAMPLE COLLECTION DATA SHEET

Date: _____ Sample Collected By: _____ Field ID: _____

Locality Information (i.e., UTM, Lat/Long, location description): _____

Sample type (i.e., blood, tissue, hair): _____ Species: _____ Sex: _____ Age: _____

Any other important information about individual (i.e. pack, condition of animal): _____

What would you like the genetics lab to do (i.e. species ID, individual ID, relatedness to other animals, genotype for database, detection of hybrid, etc.)? _____

Additional Notes: _____

****Please label sample with field ID and collector name****