

Hygiene Protocols for the Prevention
and Control of Diseases
(Particularly Beak and Feather Disease)
in Australian Birds

Equipment Lists



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Heritage

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Note

This document contains lists of equipment necessary for collection of bird samples for testing. It has been developed with the involvement and cooperation of a broad range of stakeholders, but the making of this document does not necessarily indicate the commitment of individual stakeholders to undertaking any specific actions. The attainment of objectives and the provision of funds may be subject to budgetary and other constraints affecting the parties involved. Proposed actions may be subject to modification over the life of the document due to changes in knowledge.

Equipment Lists

Introduction

Equipment listed in this document may be obtained from hardware suppliers and veterinary equipment suppliers. Australian veterinary laboratories supply some materials such as sterile plastic specimen bottles, formalin, glass slides, zip-lock bags and specimen advice forms. A computer search will locate local suppliers of specific equipment.

Basic Personal Equipment

- Overalls - 2 pairs
- Rubber boots
- Plastic overshoes x 10
- Disposable powderless nitrile gloves (e.g.,)
- Plastic safety glasses x 2
- Surgical masks
- 5 litre plastic bucket, nail brush, larger firm brush for cleaning rubber boots
- Virkon S powder 50g to make 25L 2% solution (also available in 2kg and 5kg)
50 gm sachet \$13.00 5 kg \$470.00
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses
- Paper towels
- Mobile phone
- Tape recorder with spare batteries
- Digital camera
- First aid kit
- Bird catching cloth net (made of strong black cloth, not netting).

Necropsy Equipment

- For very small birds: Microdissection scissors
Microdissection forceps
Small pane of glass for examining gastrointestinal tract
- Apron PVC - only required for necropsy of large birds (>4 kg body weight).
- Tape recorder
- Digital camera
- 10% buffered formalin in leak-proof 60 mL plastic containers.
- Necropsy forms, necropsy checklist sheets
- Lead pencils and two sharpener sharpeners
- Clipboard with record sheets
- Scales for weighing birds
- Cooler - esky or plastic esky and ice packs
- Sharps disposal box
- Metal or strong plastic ruler
- Face masks
- Knives - 2 with 6 inch blades; steel to sharpen knives

Necropsy Equipment (continued)

- Disposable plastic forceps, toothed and plain
- Scalpel blades No 22, Scalpel Handle 4
- Scalpel blades No 15, Scalpel Handle 3 or 7
- Glass microscope slides 1 box
- Cover slips 22 x 50 mm 1 box
- Plastic glass slide transporters 10
- Leak-proof zip-lock bags
- Small and large scissors, round and sharp-pointed
- Poultry shears or large bandage scissors
- Portable Bunsen burner
- Neoprene cutting board
- Swabs
- Disposable gloves
- Whatman No 3 Filter paper for PBFD HI test

Sample Collection Equipment

- Portable Bunsen burner
- Neoprene cutting board
- Permanent marking pen
- Microscope (may require mirror as light source if no access to power)
- Sterile plastic Zip lock® bags
- Esky and ice bricks or liquid-nitrogen dry shipper
- 10% buffered formalin in 60 mL plastic containers. (These should be filled under adequate conditions, and should never be filled in the field).
- Torch
- Matches

Blood:

- Tuberculin syringes - 1.0 mL
- 25, 26 or 27g hypodermic needles
- Swabs (alcohol)
- 100 ml 70% ethyl alcohol
- Absolute methanol for fixing blood smears (if there is to be a delay in getting to lab)
- 10 µL x 32 mm capillary tubes
- Paediatric blood tubes EDTA and Heparin -
- Syringes - 5,10, 20 mL
- Hypodermic needles - 21g, 25g
- Serum collection tubes
- Microscope slides with frosted ends
- Glass microscope slides, cover slips, and plastic glass slide transporters.
- 22mm x 22mm cover slips

Faeces:

- Sterile plastic specimen bottles - 60 mL, 100 mL
- Plastic spatulas
- Sterile saline
- Faecal flotation vials and solution
- Microscope slides with frosted ends
- Bacterial culture swabs
- Disposable gloves

Sample Collection Equipment (continued)

Crop samples:

- Crop needles- selection of sizes.
- Sterile saline
- Dry sterile swabs

Ectoparasites:

- Preservative for parasites (absolute alcohol 70 mL, glycerin 5 mL, water 25 mL)
- Sterile plastic specimen bottles - 60 mL, 100 mL