

Avian Blood DNA Sample Collection

Make Your Own Kit at Home

What You Need

- (1) Printed Avian DNA Submission Form Located Online at <https://dnacenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/avian-DNA-order-form.pdf>
- (1) Printed Blood Card Sheet Located Online <https://dnacenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/additional-bloodcards.pdf> (**Print on Plain White Copy or Printer Paper**)
- (1) Small Plastic Bag or Envelope (per Bird)
- Sanitized Nail Clippers
- Coagulant to Clot Bleeding from Nail (Kwik Stop, Cornstarch, Flour or Baking Soda)
- Rubbing Alcohol & Cotton Ball / Swab

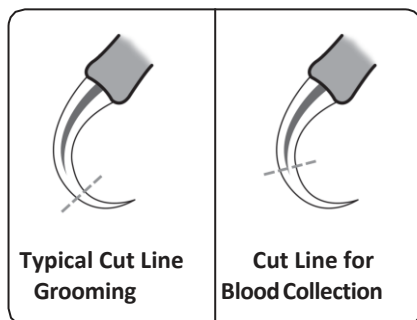
CAUTION: To prevent cross-contamination, avoid touching the circle on the Avian Blood Card where the blood is to be placed. If you are collecting samples from more than one bird, you should sanitize the nail clippers with alcohol and wash your hands thoroughly between each collection.

Collection Procedure

1. Label Each Blood Card to be Used

Before you collect each DNA sample, label the blood card with:

- Submitter's / Owner's Name
- Bird's species (Sun Conure, Senegal Parrot, etc.) Please do not write "Conure" or "Parrot," as our lab will need the specific species. **** It is important to note that we cannot test Emu, Ostrich, any bird in the ratite family, or Geese.**
- Bird's ID (Name or Band Number)



2. Clip Toenail to Obtain a Blood Sample

With the bird gently restrained, swab the toenail with alcohol to ensure the area is disinfected. Use a sanitized pair of nail clippers to clip the bird's toenail just enough to nick the vein (approximately 2/3 of the distance from the root of the nail) and produce a drop of blood.

3. Spot Blood on the Blood Card

Place the blood card underneath the cut nail and allow the card to absorb a drop of blood. It is not necessary to completely fill the circle on the card, just be sure to collect enough blood to be visible (usually 1-3 drops of blood).

4. Allow the Blood Sample to Air Dry Completely

Once the sample has been collected, set the blood card aside to air dry on a clean surface. Check that the bird is no longer bleeding before returning it to its cage. To stop further bleeding, apply coagulant, such as Kwik Stop, cornstarch, flour or baking soda to the area. Once the card is completely dry (60-90 minutes), insert it into a small resealable plastic bag or envelope. Use one bag / envelope per sample. Avoid touching the blood sample area while handling the card. Storage of blood cards in plastic when cards are not completely dry may lead to bacterial and fungal growth. Do not seal the plastic bag unless the sample has had ample time to dry.

5. Send to DDC Veterinary

Place the individually sealed samples, sample submission form, and payment (if applicable) into a mailing envelope and mail to:

DDC Veterinary, One DDC Way, Fairfield, OH 45014.

Questions? Contact DDC Veterinary at 1-800-625-0874 or email contact@vetdnacenter.com