



Farm Animal Pathology Service

Terms of service

- Cases are only accepted from the farm's veterinary surgeon after discussion with the duty pathologist
- Carcasses that arrive without prior discussion with the duty pathologist, or where a submission form is not received in a timely manner, will be disposed of and the appropriate disposal cost charged
- The post mortem examination will only proceed once a fully completed submission form has been received
- It is the responsibility of the submitting veterinary surgeon to:
 - o include full details of the case and a thorough clinical history on the submission form, including any previous diagnostic test results
 - o ensure the owner is aware of the terms and conditions of the farm animal veterinary pathology service
 - o ensure the owner is aware of any limitations of the post mortem examination, and to manage their expectations.
 - o ensure the owner is aware of the financial implication of an investigation, and that their findings may be inconclusive
- If the submission form is not completed in full, or if there is insufficient clinical history provided, the post mortem examination will not proceed
- The post mortem service is provided by University of Nottingham staff. The university will send the PM report to the submitting veterinary practice who will be responsible for discussing the findings with the owner. The university staff will not correspond directly with the owner.
- The University of Nottingham will invoice the submitting veterinary practice for all work, including any testing performed by external laboratories
- For biosecurity and legal purposes, remains of animals will not be returned to the owner
- Photographs may be taken during the post mortem examination to record findings. These images may be used for educational, research or diagnostic purposes.
- The University of Nottingham Farm Animal Pathology Service offers gross post mortem examination, histopathology and disposal. Tissue or fluid samples, photographs and glass slides from cases may be sent to third parties for diagnostic testing or second opinion.

The service we provide

We aim to provide a comprehensive service delivered within a realistic time frame and value the importance of getting quick results when dealing with a flock or herd problem.

- Post mortems submitted before 3pm will usually be conducted the same day
- A phone call will be made to the submitting vet at the end of the post mortem examination and/or a preliminary report will be sent within 24 hours
- Further diagnostic test results will be forwarded as they are received
- A full written report will usually be sent within 2 weeks of cases submission [NB further testing can take up to a few weeks to report, depending on the test required]
- For surveillance cases, extra laboratory testing and histopathology is conducted at the discretion of the veterinary pathologist (unless specifically requested by the submitting vet at an extra cost)
- For cases not eligible for the subsidised government surveillance scheme, histopathology is conducted at the discretion of the veterinary pathologist (unless specifically requested by the submitting vet) but extra testing is conducting in discussion with the submitting veterinary surgeon and at an extra cost
- Full reports for tissue samples submitted for histopathology are usually sent within 2-3 working days, but can take up to 10 days. If a quick turn-around time is required, please call to discuss before submitting.
- The farm animal pathology service is part of the university and as such, cases will routinely be used to teach undergraduate and post graduate students in farm animal pathology techniques. Cases submitted are extremely valuable for training the next generation of veterinary surgeons and veterinary pathologists
- We work closely with the farm animal clinicians, clinical and anatomic pathologists and postgraduate residents in bovine herd health and in pathology
- We are available to answer questions or discuss diagnostic queries, please call us on 07815 659975 / 01159 516743.

Permission pertaining to tissues, samples, data and photographs collected at post mortem examination

Where permission has been given on the submission form, tissues, samples, data and photographs may be used for:

- Diagnostic purposes

Permission is being granted for diagnostic samples to be taken and retained for diagnostic test(s). Examples include, but are not limited to, tissue samples for histopathology or cytology, body fluid samples for biochemical or haematological analysis, swabs or tissue samples for investigation of infectious agents.

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- **Research**

Permission is being granted for samples to be taken and retained for current or future research purposes. This may be for a specific research project related to a condition that the animal was suffering from, or it may be for an unrelated project (e.g. control samples from unaffected animals may be required for a research project).

- **Educational purposes**

Permission is being granted for samples to be used and retained for the purpose of teaching. This may include samples that are retained and preserved as examples of disease conditions or normal tissues/organs. In some cases, samples may be collected for further analysis to assist teaching. The results of such additional analyses are not expected to be formally reported.

Permission is also being granted for anonymised photos and case details (client details, animal ID details and any recognisable features will be removed) to be used for social media posts, service newsletters, or in courses delivered to external parties (e.g. farmer talks).

Surveillance

Where cases are accepted as part of the subsidised government surveillance scheme, permission is automatically granted for data from submitted cases to be used in national disease surveillance programmes.