Our Services

Vitamin analysis of animal blood and tissues is indicated in specific disease and poor-performance situations. In addition, vitamin analysis of feeds may be necessary for quality control, for determining vitamin stability, for problem investigations, and in research projects. DCPAH offers analytical services for fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, and E) in animal blood and tissue samples as well as in feeds.

Recommended Tests

Vitamins A and E are important for maintaining health and innate immunity in cows during the peripartum period. Determining the vitamin E status of dry cows is particularly important if mastitis due to environmental agents, retained placenta, or metritis are clinical problems. Vitamin A deficiency can be determined from serum samples, but the most sensitive evaluation is via liver biopsy. Assessing vitamin concentrations in feeds may be important when mixing errors are suspected or when the stability of vitamins in commercial feeds is in question due to improper feed storage or handling procedures.

Collecting and Submitting Samples

Serum samples suitable for vitamin A, D, and E evaluation can be obtained in the field using techniques that are practical and economical. Blood should be collected into Vacutainers™ or clean syringes and allowed to clot. Care should be taken to avoid hemolysis. Samples should be stored out of direct sunlight and refrigerated. They should be sent to the laboratory on ice and by overnight courier. Liver samples for vitamin A analysis can be taken from necropsy specimens or as biopsy samples. Feed samples for vitamin testing should be as representative as possible of the feed in question.

For more information, please contact the Nutrition lab at 517.353.1683, or visit our website at animalhealth.msu.edu.
DCPAH is a full-service veterinary diagnostic laboratory, fully accredited by the AAVLD for all species through 2017.

Sample Submission Forms
Visit our website at animalhealth.msu.edu to access our most current submittal forms. Customized forms preprinted with your clinic information are also available at no cost via the Product Order Form.

Unbeatable Shipping
DCPAH offers a variety of shipping options. Our mailers comply with U.S. Postal Service, FedEx, UPS, and DHL regulations. All UPS mailers include prepaid overnight weekday delivery. All U.S. Postal Service mailers include prepaid delivery; delivery time will vary depending on your location.

Order Mailing Supplies
Individual, insulated, and biopsy mailers are available. Contact us at 517.353.1683 or complete the Product Order Form available online at animalhealth.msu.edu.

Packaging and Mailing Samples
For shipping recommendations for individual tests, please refer to the information provided at animalhealth.msu.edu under “Available Tests.”

Speak Directly to Experts
Our veterinary professionals are available for consultation and can help you interpret your test results to better manage the health of animals entrusted to you.

Get Results by Email and Online
Had it with the fax machine? Contact us at 517.353.1683 to have results delivered by email.

All DCPAH clients also have free, quick access to view results online through WebView. Reports are posted to the web hourly. Visit animalhealth.msu.edu and click “Log In” to request access to your diagnostic results.

Expect Quality in Testing and Service
DCPAH is a leader in establishing technical guidelines for public veterinary diagnostic laboratories in the United States and maintains a quality assurance team dedicated to promoting accuracy and reliability.

Customer Service Hours
Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST

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