

NY RAM PROJECT

Information for Veterinarians Submitting Samples for Genetic Testing

- Official submission forms (VS Form 5-29) may be obtained by calling DAI at (518) 457-3502.
- Unfortunately, we are not able to provide blood cards for testing. If you wish to use blood cards, you will have to purchase these through the laboratory.
- This year, the testing may be conducted at your choice of APHIS approved laboratories for genotype testing. Contact the lab of your choice for specific submission instructions. A list of approved labs is included with this mailing. Also, the most up-to-date list of approved labs can be found at the following web address: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/scrapie/app-labs-genotype-test.shtml
- Accredited veterinarians participating in testing under the NY Ram Project will receive a fee basis payment of \$15.00 per sample. This fee is meant to cover the cost of laboratory testing, shipping costs, supplies and time. Farm call charges will not be reimbursed.
- Only rams may be tested under this program – no ewes or goats.
- Up to 10 rams per flock may be tested.
- Veterinarians collecting blood samples for DNA testing should remember these key points:
 - Record official USDA scrapie tag number and all other identification (plastic tag, tattoo) on submission form.
 - Label blood tubes or blood cards with scrapie tag number to prevent errors.
 - Record breed on sample submission form, if known.
 - Send sample, lab submission form, **and payment** to one of the APHIS approved laboratories for genotype testing.
- To receive the fee basis payment, submit the following in one package to Ram Project, Division of Animal Industry, 10B Airline Dr, Albany, NY 12235:
 - One part of the VS Form 5-29 (must be legible and filled out completely)
 - A copy of the test results from an APHIS approved laboratory
 - A scrapie payment request form
- The NY Ram Project will through December 31, 2008, or until funding runs out. Please call DAI prior to testing to make sure funds are still available.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, Division of Animal Industry at (518) 457-3502.

May 27, 2008