

Sample retention times & typical test turnaround times

Test type	Sample retention times[#] # Or 3 days after the final report whichever is the greatest time.	Typical test turnaround times
Biochemistry toxicology	2 weeks after authorisation of results	3 days - animal samples; 1 week - plant samples
Blood films	60 days	Diagnostic blood films 2 days / export blood films 2 weeks or by arrangement
Export testing	30 days from sample receipt except negative HT-J PCR (Johne's Disease).	2 - 4 weeks HT-J
Hendra virus PCR	4 weeks after authorisation of results	same day
Histopathology	Slides - 3 yrs; Blocks - 10 yrs; Unblocked formalised tissue - 6 weeks after authorisation of results	2 weeks
HT-J PCR (Johne's Disease)	2 weeks after authorisation of results	2 - 4 weeks
Microbiology	4 weeks after sample receipt	Aerobes 2 - 5 days, Anaerobes 5 - 7 days, Brucella up to 7 days, Burkholderia 5 days, Johnes culture up to 14 weeks, Fungal 7 to 21 days, Mycoplasma up to 21 days
Necropsy	4 weeks after sample receipt	2 days
Parasitology	7 days after result authorisation except for blood smears - 60 days	Coprological tests and parasite identification 2 days; <i>Trichinella spiralis</i> detection 3 - 4 days; Larval culture 11 days; Acaricide resistance assays 8 weeks
Polymerase chain reaction except Hendra virus, negative HT-J (Johne's Disease) and emergency animal disease outbreaks	4 weeks after authorisation of results	5 - 7 days
Restricted animal matter	(processed sample) minimum of 3 years	Microscopy - 3 weeks LFD - 1-2 weeks
Serology	4 weeks after authorisation of results	1 week (2 weeks for tick fever ELISAs)
Virology	4 weeks after authorisation of results	3 - 6 weeks
Samples where retesting and/or referral is likely:	30 days from sample receipt	As for disciplines above.

Notes

Typical turnaround times are based from when samples are received at the laboratory. They do not include courier time as that is outside of the control of the laboratory.

Please note that these are typical turnaround times for each test type, provided as a guide. Times may vary in extenuating circumstances. For specific information about your submission or if you require a quicker turnaround time, contact the laboratory (Phone: (07) 3708 8762. Email: bslclo@daf.qld.gov.au).

If testing is required in multiple disciplines (test types), there may be a cumulative effect on the typical turnaround time, depending on sample size, whether sample splits are possible etc.