



Sampling for foot and mouth disease diagnosis

The role of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals



Why is sampling important?

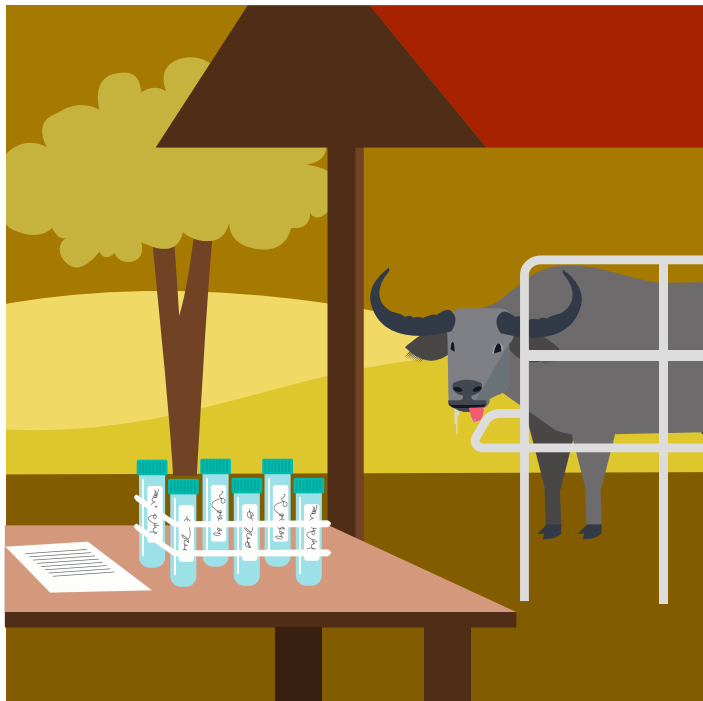
- Collecting appropriate samples (epithelial tissue, blood, etc.) is critical for foot and mouth disease (FMD) diagnosis of suspected cases.
 - Laboratory diagnosis helps in the detection of either the FMD virus itself or antibodies to the FMD virus.
 - Timely detection plays a crucial role in managing and possibly stopping FMD outbreaks.
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Stages for FMD diagnosis sampling

Step 1: Collection

- Collect samples from animals showing clinical signs.
 - Vesicular fluid and epithelium are the preferred samples since they are rich sources of the virus.
 - Collect duplicated samples if you need to submit them to different laboratories for diagnosis.
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Stages for FMD diagnosis sampling

Step 2: Labelling and handling

- Each sample should be suitably and legibly labeled on the container with a waterproof marker.
 - The sample should be accompanied by animal description and details (age, sex, breed, vaccination status and ID) and their owner details (name and address).
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Stages for FMD diagnosis sampling

Step 3: Storage and transport

- Maintenance of the cold chain is important for sample quality.
- Ensure the samples are kept at 4° Celsius for short shipments (1 to 2 days) using ice packs.

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) has been at the forefront of controlling animal diseases for almost 100 years.

We work with our members to protect the health of animals, humans and the planet.

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