

Certified CWD Collector Fact Sheet

- A certified chronic wasting disease (CWD) collector should **never** submit a CWD suspect or abnormal animal, but instead notify an accredited veterinarian, state or federal official.
- Cervids **12 months of age** and older that **die for any reason** or those **harvested** on the farm must be sampled.
- Samples must be collected, submitted and received at the laboratory **within 7 days of death**.
- Submit the **obex** (part of the brainstem), both **retropharyngeal lymph nodes**, and **all ear tags** in a labeled formalin jar.
- Include a nickel-sized piece of ear tissue attached to the official ear tag.
- If the owner needs the ear for taxidermy purposes, submit the official ear tag without a piece of the ear, but make a note for your records.
- **Do not sample a carcass if it has no official ID.** The owner must provide an official ID to submit a CWD sample.
- Official ID includes either an 840 official tag or a USDA NUES steel tag.
- **Make sure all samples are properly labeled.** Label the jar (not the lid) with the owner's name, animal identification, and collection date.
- Complete **Purdue University ADDL form**. **Make a copy** for your records and send the original with the sample. Place the form and payment in a separate, sealed bag to accompany the jar.
- Currently samples should be shipped to:
Purdue ADDL
406 S. University
West Lafayette, IN 47907
- A certified CWD collector **must keep records** on every cervid sampled for CWD testing. See the Collector Receipt Form.
- **CWD collector certification is a privilege, not a right!** Regional staff will be notified if specimens are improperly collected and handled. Repeated errors may result in the loss of certification.



Indiana State
Board of Animal Health
Cervidae Division

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