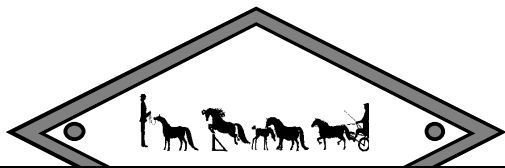


# New Zealand Miniature Horse Association Inc



## Instructions for taking of hair samples for DNA Sampling

### Background

The required sample for DNA typing is mane or tail hair to be taken in accordance with the following instructions – DO NOT take blood samples for DNA Typing as the laboratory procedures have been standardised for the extraction of DNA from hair samples.

### Hair Sampling Instructions

- When:** Hair samples can be tested at any age.
- Where From:** Either mane or tail hairs are suitable – in some foals mane hair may be very fine and likely to break in the pulling process – in these cases tail hair may be more suitable.
- How:** When taking the hair sample **it is absolutely essential that most hairs have intact hair roots**. Thus hairs must be pulled **NOT CUT**. Grasp a tuft of 20-30 hairs as close to the skin as possible (wrap around a finger or comb) and pull evenly and slowly in a peeling motion away from the skin – samples obtained in this way should have at least half of the hairs with intact hair follicles – these can be seen as small bulbs on then end of the hair closest to the skin. If tail hair is taken the samples may require trimming to fit in the sample envelope – PLEASE ensure the actual samples sent include the hair follicles ie. cut excess length off the opposite end.

**Despatch of Samples to the Laboratory:** Hair samples are to be placed in the NZMHA supplied pre-printed envelope. Ensure that the following information is included on the exterior of the envelope:

- Horse Name & NZMHA Registration Number (if known), Date of Birth, Sex, Colour
- Sire Name & NZMHA Registration Number
- Dam Name & NZMHA Registration Number

Hair samples can be kept in a cool dry place for up to one week prior to despatch to the laboratory. Place the sample envelope **inside a sturdy larger envelope** and send via courier or fastpost to:

**Equine Parentage & Animal Genetics Service Centre  
Drysdale Drive  
Massey University PN811  
Palmerston North 4442**

**Results:** The results will be sent to the NZMHA Registrar.

