

# National Residue Program Sampling Job Aid

**Instructions:** Review this Job Aid and policy documents, regulations, and inspection methodologies described with a mentor.

## Acronyms/Definitions

- National Residue Program (NRP) – Designed to prevent the occurrence of violative levels of chemical residues in meat and poultry products
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – Approves drugs for use in food animals and sets tolerance levels for drug residues
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Regulates the use of pesticides and sets tolerance levels for pesticide residues
- Directed sampling – Sampling tasks displayed on the establishment task list (in PHIS) based on the sampling verification programs for which the establishment is eligible
  - Also called surveillance sampling
- Muscle – Refers to skeletal muscle, excluding the tongue and heart
- Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)-Direct – System where all reportable sampling results are posted and accessible by IPP

## Task Overview

- The sampling programs within the NRP are used to verify that establishments control animal drug residues, pesticides, environmental contaminants, and any other chemical hazards in and on meat and poultry products.
- NRP sampling applies to both livestock and poultry establishments.
- IPP collect samples of eligible meat and poultry products under the relevant directed residue sampling task for residue analysis.
- PHIS adds directed sampling tasks to the establishment task list.
  - These tasks are automatically generated and filtered under Lab Sampling.
  - Appear as “NRP\_ [letters to indicate slaughter class]”
- The sampling task provides information to IPP on the slaughter class to sample.
- IPP may also conduct inspector-generated sampling whenever they suspect that an animal presented for slaughter may contain a violative level of one or more chemical residues.

## Basic Procedure

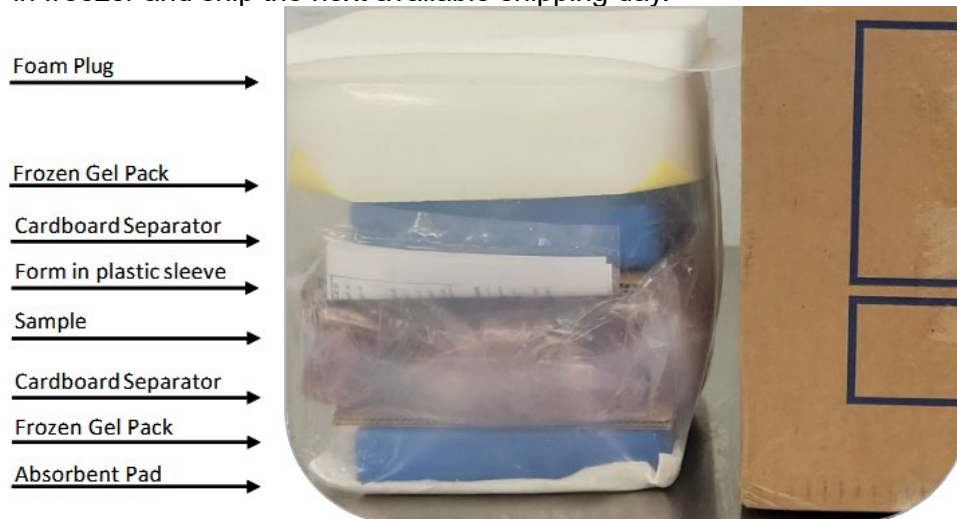
### Livestock

- [Schedule the Directed Sampling task](#) from the sampling task list in PHIS.
  - Filter the task list by selecting Lab Sampling from the drop-down menu
- Notify establishment management of the scheduled sample with enough time for the establishment to hold the sampled carcass.
- Randomly select the carcass at the kill floor stage, after it passes ante-mortem inspection, regardless of post-mortem disposition.
  - Verify the establishment holds or controls the selected carcass pending the test results.
- Collect kidney, liver, and muscle (per [FSIS Directive 10800.2](#)) samples in a sanitary manner

**Table 2: Samples to Submit For Surveillance Residue Testing**

Slaughter Class	Sample source and size
Cattle	Muscle – 2 lb. Liver –1 lb.
Swine	Kidney – 1 lb.
Sheep	Muscle – 2 lb. Liver –1 lb.
Goats	Kidney – both kidneys
Roaster pigs	Liver – 1 lb.

- Collect producer information from establishment. If unknown, enter the establishment's name and address into PHIS as the producer.
- Collect all animal identification information (e.g., ear tags, tattoos, backtags, etc.).
- Pack, label, and ship the sample.
  - For samples collected and shipped the same day, submit fresh samples on gel coolant packs.
  - For samples that cannot be shipped on the same day as collected, place sample in freezer and ship the next available shipping day.



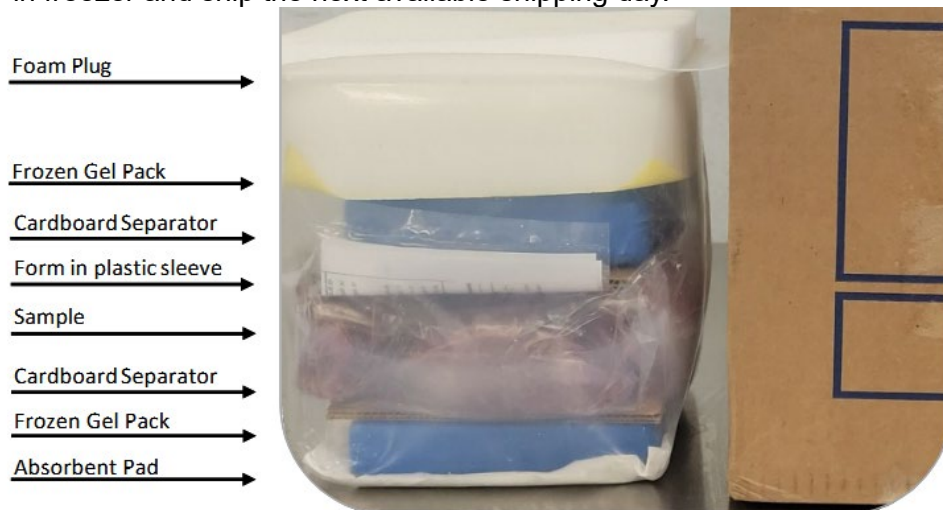
**Poultry**

- Schedule the Directed Sampling task from the sampling task list in PHIS.
- Notify establishment management of the scheduled sample with enough time for the establishment to hold the sampled carcasses.
  - Note: FSIS recommends, but does not require, that the establishment hold poultry carcasses selected for residue testing pending the results.
- Randomly select the carcass at the kill floor stage, after it passes ante-mortem inspection, regardless of post-mortem disposition.
- Collect kidney, liver, and muscle (per FSIS Directive 10800.2) samples in a sanitary manner

**Table 2: Samples to Submit For Surveillance Residue Testing**

Poultry	Muscle – 2 lb. Livers Kidneys	} From 6 carcasses
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- Collect producer information from establishment. If unknown, enter the establishment's name and address into PHIS as the producer.
- Pack, label, and ship the sample.
  - For samples collected and shipped the same day, submit fresh samples on gel coolant packs.
  - For samples that cannot be shipped on the same day as collected, place sample in freezer and ship the next available shipping day.



## Results

- Access [LIMS-Direct](#) to view the sample results via FSIS Applications or PHIS through the Laboratory Sample data field on the Inspector Home page.
  - The PHV makes the final disposition on the carcass and parts.
  - When violative drug residues are found, IPP verify the establishment takes corrective actions.
  - IPP are to discuss any developing trends in violative residue results at the weekly meeting.
  - Follow instructions in [FSIS Directive 10800.1](#) for when to document noncompliance.
- Notify the establishment of the results once reported and final disposition of any carcass and its parts.

## Discussion Points

- Procedures for sample collection
- Procedures to ensure the livestock carcass is held until results are received
- FSIS recommends poultry carcasses are held pending results but not required
- How to access sample results in LIMS Direct

## Knowledge Check

- What tissues are collected and how much of each for the NRP sample?
- When do IPP select the specific carcass for the NRP?

## Resources

- [FSIS Directive 10800.1](#) – Information related to residue policy and verification tasks performed as part of the NRP to verify an establishment's residue control program
- [FSIS Directive 10800.2](#) – Information related to sample collection methodologies
- [FSIS Guideline for Residue Prevention](#)
- FSIS Directive 13000.2 – *Performing Sampling Tasks in Official Establishments Using the Public Health Information System*