
CANADIAN LLAMA AND ALPACA ASSOCIATION

FTA Blood Card Collection

Note 1: Unused FTA cards can be stored at room temperature in a dry place

Note 2: Clearly label the FTA card with the proper animal identification

Note 3: After spotting the blood on the FTA card, allow the sample to completely dry before placing the card in the mailing envelope. Drop the blood onto the card in a concentric circular motion within the printed circle area. Avoid “puddling” of the liquid sample, as it will overload the chemicals on the card. Also, do not rub or smear the blood onto the card.

Note 4: Air dry at room temperature. Do not stack FTA cards while still wet as cross-contamination may occur

Note 5: Take only one sample per FTA card

Collecting the DNA sample

1. Secure the animal as you would for a veterinary visit.
2. Completely clean the drawing area (backside of the ear or underneath of the tail) using rubbing alcohol.
3. Using a syringe needle, gently puncture the vein (outer ear or tail vein).
4. Draw blood into a syringe and spot the blood in the centre of the FTA card. Alternatively, let few drops of blood come out of the vein and collect them by carefully dabbing with the actual FTA card. Do not use excess blood on the card, but **there must be sufficient blood to get DNA**. Let the sample dry before proceeding with another sample.
5. Apply gentle pressure to the puncture area, clean again.
6. Clean hands before taking another sample.