PROPERLY LABELING EACH FECAL SAMPLE SPECIMEN WITH THE SAMPLE NUMBER (1, 2, 3, ETC.) AND EMAILING A TYPED SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION FORM WITH SAMPLE NUMBERS AND ANIMALS IDS WILL MINIMIZE DELAYS.

Improperly labeled submission will be sent to the back of the queue, plus incur extra processing, handling, and labeling fees. Samples labeled with only animal IDs (AYX34, B13, etc.) may take up to FOUR weeks to complete. There will be no changes in turnaround times for properly labeled Johne’s specimens that are numbered consecutively (1, 2, 3, 4...) and start with #1.

Collection:
✓ **Send at least 5 grams of fecal material per animal.** For example, the amount to fill a finger of a sleeve/glove, 1-2mL if a liquid consistency.
  o Feces should be directly from the rectum and placed in a clean container. If lubricant is needed for collection use water or OB lubricant. Do not use soaps or oils because they may interfere with testing. Use a separate, clean glove for each sample.

Storage & Shipment
✓ Fecal samples must be chilled quickly and kept cold. Fecal samples can be refrigerated up to 2 weeks.
✓ Freezing is not recommended, but samples can be frozen for up to 1 month before shipping to the laboratory. Ship samples on cold packs.

Turnaround time:
This will vary depending on the time of year, case load, and how well labeled the submission is. Holidays, unexpected University/Lab closures (i.e., snow days), illnesses and pandemic related circumstances (absences, supplies) could add additional days to the turnaround.

✓ **During the ‘fall/winter busy season’,** the Johne’s assay is run multiple times a week.
  o However, it is not unusual for us to receive thousands of samples in one week (or even one day!). Samples must be correctly labeled, and forms filled out properly to avoid delays.
  o Even when running the assay multiple times a week, due to volume of cases and number of reweighs, a pool case can still take up to 15 days during the busy season.
✓ **During slower seasons or when we have fewer submissions,** turnaround times follow those posted on the website and the assay is performed on Tuesday.
  o **Individuals** – results will be reported within 1-3 business days of testing; therefore, results should be expected before 5pm on Friday.
  o Individual samples must be received prior to Tuesday to be on the Tuesday run.
  o **Pools** – results could take up to 15 days. The pools will be tested on a Tuesday, and any reweighs will be tested on the following Tuesday.
✓ We will let you know if there are delays beyond those listed on the website.

Submission & Labeling for Veterinarians, Clinic Staff, or Owner Collections:
✓ **Email a typed Excel file (Sample Identification Form) with the Sample Number (#1, 2, 3, etc.) & Animal IDS, and enclose the Herd Serology/PCR Submission Form with the samples.** Improperly labeled specimens and handwritten or missing forms will cause delays.
  o The sample numbers must be consecutive starting with #1 and written legibly on the specimen.
  o Samples will be tested and pooled in the order written on the Sample Identification Form.
✓ **Include the Sample Number and if possible, the Animal ID on each collected fecal sample.** The Sample Number is #1, 2, 3, 4, etc. The Animal ID is helpful when sample numbers are duplicated or cannot be determined; for example, 6 vs 9 or 18 vs 81. Results will be delayed and an extra fee charged if the Samples Number (1, 2, 3, etc.) is not directly written on the fecal sample.
✓ **If submitting one case in multiple boxes, especially on different days, please clearly mark on the submission form.**
✓ We appreciate an email that a large case (50+ animals) is coming.
✓ DO send samples in CLEAN and WELL Labeled containers (SEE BELOW)
   - Screw cap containers
   - Sleeves with two knots, one close to the hand end to keep the feces confined and another at top to confine any material that was on the outside of the sleeve
   - Well secured snap cap containers
   - Zip-top sandwich-sized bags with fecal material well away from the closure

✓ DO NOT send fecal samples in Whirl-paks, glass containers, regular exam gloves, plastic grocery bags or receptacles with staples and/or holes, or with handwritten labels covered in feces.

✓ Indicate whether the samples should be pooled or tested individually. Submissions containing greater than 5 samples will be pooled unless otherwise requested.
   - All pooling will be done at the Laboratory. Pool 1 will include Samples #1-5, Pool 2 Samples #6-10, and so on. We do not shift the pooling procedure if samples are missing.
   - If there are specific samples you would like tested individually, place them on another submission form in the package. DO NOT include them on the same form and ID list for pooling. As long as they are the same owner, only one accession fee will be charged.

✓ DO NOT save multiple herd cases and mail all at one time. This creates a bottleneck and can cause delays. However, it is fine to wait until a large herd is complete before sending, even if it takes a couple days.

Examples of properly labeled and secured samples/specimens: