



University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Yak Trace Mineral Study Procedures:

1. Go to www.vdl.uky.edu
2. On left side go to the Accession Form – print
 - Complete top of form – check the “**Additional Copy**” and have it sent to : michelle.arnold@uky.edu (She is the veterinarian in charge of the study)
 - Complete animal information section
 - In the history box put “**YAK TRACE MINERAL STUDY**”, **also state if yak was healthy, male, female, approx. age, pregnant, steer, and if sick give history and symptoms.**
 - If the yak was given Multimin or other trace mineral supplements: state what they were and when - detail is critical
 - **Complete the form which came with the collection tubes** and send that back with the samples to the Diagnostic Lab. The more information you can provide the better they can address anomalies.
 - Complete “**Date Samples Taken**”: for Blood put “**Royal Blue Top – Serum**”
 - On the second page go to the bottom center: Toxicology – put S for specimen and “**Trace Mineral Panel**” for “**Test Requested**”.
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3. On left side go to **Accession Continuation Form** (IF MORE THAN ONE ANIMAL SAMPLE BEING SENT) – print and complete. Give age, gender, health information for each animal submitted.
4. On left side go to **New Account Form** – print out – you can have your veterinarian fill it out and bill you or you can have bill sent to you directly (**\$30/samples for up to five samples – if over five samples then \$25 apiece**)

SERUM COLLECTION PROCESS

1. **Draw the blood with a large bore needle (no smaller than 18 gauge).** Draw from the jugular as there is less chance of hemolysis.
2. **If possible collect the blood directly into the collection tube. Fill if possible.**
3. **Turn tube upside down and then upright 8-10 times**
4. **Your veterinarian should take your sample and an extra (empty) royal blue top and spin down the collection and then place the serum in the new blue top**
5. **The serum tube should be chilled, safely wrapped for shipping with several ice packs to keep it cool and then overnighted using FedEx or UPS (They have trouble with US mail overnight).**
SHIP MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY as the lab is closed on the weekend.



The head of the toxicology laboratory at the Diagnostic Lab is Dr. Cynthia Gaskill 859-257-7912

US YAKS Trace Mineral Health Study Background data form

Farm: _____
Address: _____
e-mail: _____
Telephone: _____
Contact: _____

Animal sample taken from: Ear Tag or identifying number: _____

Sample: Whole blood: _____ Liver: _____

Animal Gender: _____ Steer: _____

Animal age: _____

Was animal in good health at time of sample? _____

If female: Open: _____ Pregnant: _____ Lactating: _____

Was animal slaughtered for meat (and liver sample taken)? _____

Was animal under heat stress due to weather at time of sample? _____

Other known stress animal was under: _____

Had the animal received mineral supplements? _____ **What, by what means and when?**

Animal's Diet: _____

Describe pasture grasses if relevant: _____

Describe hay fed if relevant: _____

Was hay from irrigated land? : _____

Describe feed if provided: _____:

Describe any supplements given: _____

Have you had a pasture grass forage analysis done? _____

Have you had a hay analysis done? _____

Have you had your pasture/hay soil tested? _____

Have you had a water test done for trace minerals? _____

[Include copies of any test results you have had done on your farm]

If animal was not in good health at time of sample:

Was the animal losing weight? _____

Had there been hair changes (loss of luster, texture, loss of hair): _____



Did the animal have diarrhea? _____
Was the animal eating well? _____
Was the animal "stiff" in walking? _____
Was the animal listless? _____
Was the animal running a fever? _____ Temp? _____
How long had the animal been sick before sample was taken? _____
Other observed symptoms: _____

Treatments given BEFORE sample collected: _____

Did the animal recover? _____

Treatment used: _____

Have you had other animals show the same symptoms? _____ What was their outcome?

PROBLEMS/QUESTIONS: Contact Greg Dike nct1108@yahoo.com or 606-776-0022