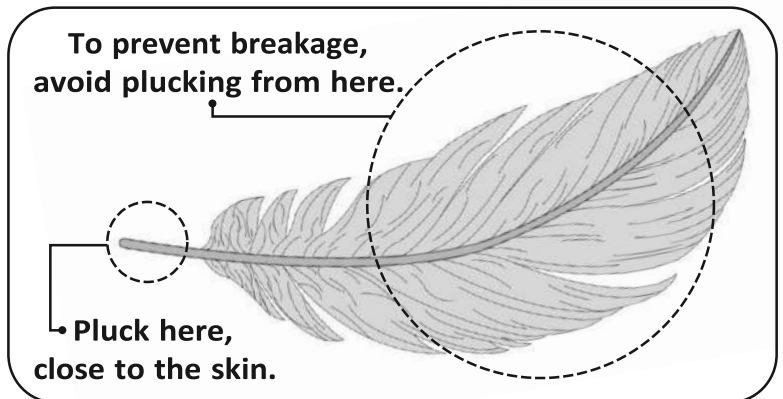


Avian DNA Testing

Feather Collection Procedure

If you are inexperienced at handling birds, we recommend that feather samples be taken by an experienced bird handler or by a veterinarian. This precaution is for the bird's and your own safety.

Feathers for avian DNA testing should be freshly plucked, not naturally moulted. DNA is contained at the base of the feather, which originates just below the surface of the skin. It is important to pluck each feather individually and close to the skin. Use a pair of sanitized tweezers, if necessary—particularly with smaller birds. Avoid plucking feathers from the opposite end or plucking in clumps, as this may cause the shafts to break off above the skin, rendering them unusable. **See illustration.**



Before taking any feather samples, make sure that your hands are clean. If you are collecting samples from multiple birds, wash hands between each collection. Avoid touching the ends of the feather shafts. Follow the steps below to ensure proper feather collection for the avian DNA test.

1. Label Each Envelope or Bag

Before you start collecting the feather samples, label each envelope or resealable plastic bag with the submitter's name, species of bird collected, and a Bird ID. The Bird ID can be the bird's name, band number, or cage number. Use the same Bird ID on the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form so that you can match the final DNA results to the correct bird.

2. Pluck Chest Feathers

With the bird restrained, pluck 4-5 chest feathers. Blood or primary feathers are not required. Additional feathers may be required for smaller birds, such as finches. If you have any questions about the additional feather samples that may be needed, please contact us.

3. Place Feathers in the Labelled Envelope or Bag

Place the feathers in the envelope or plastic bag that was labelled in Step 1. Avoid touching the ends of the feather shafts. Each envelope or bag should contain feather samples from only **ONE** bird.

4. Fill Out the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form

Complete the Avian DNA Sexing Submission Form with the submitter's information, information about each bird including Bird ID, and payment information. Place the individually sealed samples together with the completed submission form inside an envelope and mail to us at the address below.

Avian DNA Testing

Submission Form

Please complete using **black** ink and BLOCK CAPITALS.

Section 1 – Submitter’s Information

Organisation (if applicable):		
Name:		
Address:		
Town/City:	County:	Post Code:
Phone:	Fax:	
Email:	Website:	

Section 2 – Sample Information

Sample	Species (required)	Name / ID of Bird (bird’s name, cage no., band no., etc.)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

Section 3 – Payment Information

Amount: £	Payment by: <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (payable to General Genetics Corporation) <input type="checkbox"/> Card (see below)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Debit / Delta <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Electron <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard		Expiry Date:
Card No:		CVC No (last 3 digits on reverse):
Billing Address:		
Town/City:	County:	Post Code:
Cardholder’s Signature:		Date: / /

Section 4 – Agreement

I hereby certify that the information provided on this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge, and I affirm that the DNA sample was collected and labelled properly. I understand that all test results and documentation will be provided to only me, unless otherwise specified.

Signature:

Date: / /

Additional Kits

Number of additional kits required:
(leave blank if not applicable)

Notes

- Please **DO NOT** send cash and cheques in the post as we do not accept these types of payments. Order your test online and use one of our payment methods available to carry out payment.
- We recommend sending kits by courier with a tracking number to ensure timely delivery.