

BSL Testing Turnaround and Sample Retention Times

Test type	Typical test turnaround times (business days/weeks)	Sample retention times [#] (#or 3 days after the final report whichever is the greatest time.)
Biochemistry analysis and complete blood counts (outsourced)	2 to 5 days	2 weeks after authorisation of results
Biochemistry toxicology	Animal samples 3 days Plant samples 1 week	2 weeks after authorisation of results
Blood films	Diagnostic blood films 2 days Health, surveillance and export blood films 2 weeks (or by arrangement)	60 days (28 days if no further tests are assigned)
Export or health testing	HT-J PCR (Johne's disease) 4 weeks	Negative samples – 2 weeks after authorisation of results Positive samples - 6 months
Hendra virus polymerase chain reaction	Same day (2 pm cut off)	4 weeks after authorisation of results
Histopathology	2 weeks	Slides 3 years Blocks 10 years Unblocked formalised tissue 6 weeks after authorisation of results.
Microbiology	Aerobes 5 days Anaerobes 7 days Brucella 7 days Burkholderia 5 days Johne's disease culture 14 weeks Fungi 3 weeks Mycoplasma 3 weeks	4 weeks after sample receipt

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Necropsy	2 days	4 weeks after sample receipt
Parasitology	Coprological tests and parasite identification 2 days <i>Trichinella spiralis</i> detection 4 days Larval culture 1-2 weeks Acaricide resistance assays 8 weeks	7 days after result authorisation (Except for blood smears - 60 days)
Polymerase chain reaction (except Hendra virus and emergency animal disease outbreaks)	1 week 2-3 weeks for high volume submissions (e.g <i>Tritrichomonas foetus</i> real-time PCR)	4 weeks after authorisation of results
Restricted Animal Matter	3 weeks	Negative samples – 30 days Positive samples – 3 years
Serology	2 weeks Tick fever ELISAs - 2 weeks	4 weeks after authorisation of results
Infertility testing	2 weeks	4 weeks after authorisation of results
Virology	6 weeks	4 weeks after authorisation of results
Samples where retesting and/or referral is likely	As for disciplines above	30 days from sample receipt

Please note:

- Typical turnaround times are estimated from when samples are received at the laboratory. They do not include courier time.
- These are typical turnaround times for each test type and are provided as a guide. Times may vary in extenuating circumstances. For specific information about your submission or if you require a quicker turnaround time, contact the laboratory (Phone: (07) 3708 8762. Email: bslclo@daf.qld.gov.au).
- If testing is required in multiple disciplines (test types), there the turnaround time may be extended.

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