

NUNAVUT TRICHINELOSIS PREVENTION INFORMATION FOR HARVESTERS: HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WALRUS SAMPLES FOR TESTING

WHAT PART OF THE WALRUS SHOULD I SUBMIT FOR TRICHINELLA TESTING?

The best part of the walrus to test for the Trichinella parasite is the Tongue. The parasite is most likely to be found in the tongue of an infected animal. **After you harvest a walrus, cut off the animal's whole tongue as close to the base as possible, and place the whole tongue in the large zip lock bag included in the sampling kit.** Use disposable gloves while cutting the tongue.

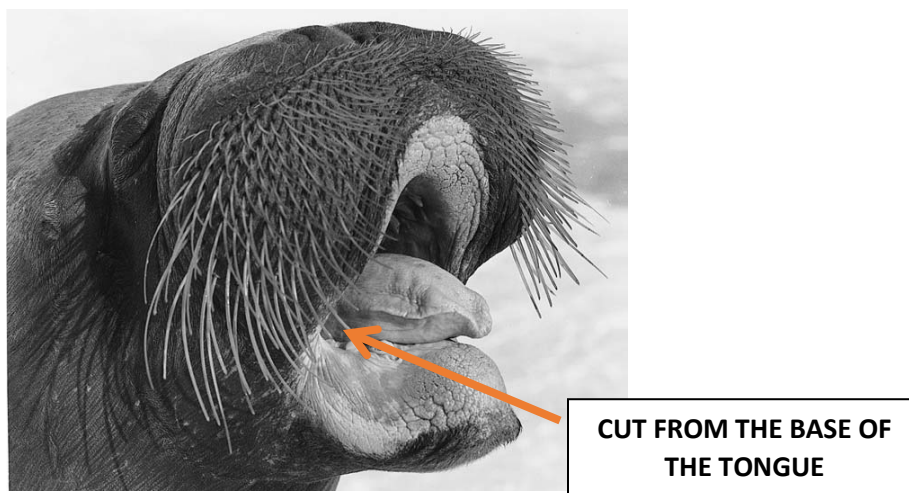


Figure One: Cutting site for the walrus tongue

WHAT INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE TONGUE?

For each tongue you submit you must include a completed **sample information sheet**. The information sheet should be placed in a small Ziplock bag which you insert inside the larger Ziplock bag containing the tongue. *You must include an information sheet for each sample in order to receive payment for submitting your sample.

If you have a Walrus sample identification tag from the sampling kit please also include with the tongue. The tag can be placed inside the sample bag containing the information sheet.



Figure Two: Walrus Tongue Sample with Information Sheet

CAN MORE THAN ONE TONGUE BE SUBMITTED AT THE SAME TIME FOR TESTING?

Yes. There is no limit to the number of walrus tongues that you may submit for testing. Please change gloves each time you remove a new tongue and make sure that you place each tongue in a separate bag along with the proper information sheet. *Do not place more than one tongue in the same Ziplock bag. When submitting multiple tongues in the same container make sure that each tongue is packed in a separate Ziplock bag along with the proper information sheet.

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I AM READY TO SUBMIT A TONGUE FOR TESTING?

After you have cut out the walrus tongue and stored it in a Ziplock bag along with the information sheet, contact the Nunavut Research Institute at 867-979-7290. Please store your tongue in a freezer before it is shipped for testing.

Your sample must be packed in a container and shipped to:

Nunavut Research Institute
Attention: Jamal Shirley
PO Box 1720,
Iqaluit, Nunavut 867-979-7290

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR MY SAMPLE TO BE TESTED?

As soon as the tongue is received at the laboratory in Iqaluit, the testing procedure will be conducted. Every effort is made to have results available within

a 24-hour period. Test results will be reported by the Department of Health. Please ensure your phone number is included in the Sample Information Sheet.



Trichinella Analyst Examining a Sample

HOW DO I RECEIVE TEST RESULTS FOR SAMPLES I SUBMIT?

As soon as the testing is completed, an official from the Department of Health will contact you with the test results. The Laboratory is not authorized to report test results directly to you.

HOW WILL I BE PAID FOR SUBMITTING A SAMPLE?

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated is responsible for paying hunters to submit tongues. **If you wish to receive a Direct Deposit, please provide a Voided Cheque and include it in the shipping container.** If not, a Cheque will be mailed to you. Please be sure to include your mailing address and phone number in the information sheet.