

# CHAROLAIS

THE BRITISH CHAROLAIS CATTLE SOCIETY

## Hair sampling for genomic and routine parentage testing

Tail hair root follicles are an excellent source of DNA for genomic and routine parentage testing. However, the performance of samples processed and the reliability of the genomic results are dependent upon sample quality.

Pull at least 60 hairs from the tail switch – we no longer accept samples of coat hair. **DO NOT CUT** the hair - if the sample is missing the follicle (root), it will not contain DNA. If you don't have enough hairs, there will not be enough DNA for genotyping.



Gather at least 60 hairs, and grasp them tightly as close to the skin as possible with hands or pliers. As an animal gets older, the hair roots become harder to remove, so the use of pliers often aids removal.

Pull the hair slowly and firmly away from the tail, making sure to get the roots.

Do not collect shed hair for sampling, as the follicles will carry degraded DNA.

Ensure the hair is completely dry, and as clean as possible, otherwise the DNA will degrade before extraction.

When more than one animal is sampled, take extreme care to avoid cross contamination of hair roots between animals. Only put the hair from one animal in each sample bag.

Be sure there's no substance on the sample, such as sprays, detergents or other cleaning agents.

Only take hair samples from live animals.





Examples of poor hair samples which have failed to produce a result – insufficient hair and coat hair



Quality samples are the key to getting good DNA from your cattle – plenty of tail hair with strong follicles

Please ensure that the DNA sampling bag is labelled with the correct animal details or, if we have not provided the pre-labelled bag, please write the animal's name and full UK tag number on the bag with permanent marker.

Once you have placed the hair in the bag, seal it tightly ready for return.  
Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

### Semen Sample Instructions

If you wish to send a semen sample for testing, please contact the Society for a semen testing pack. Samples sent directly to the office will no longer be accepted.

### Tag Sample Instructions

1. Check that vial is properly sealed, do not break the seal, if the liquid leaks out in transport the tissue contained inside will not be suitable for testing;
2. While you are still in possession of the samples prior to sending them to the Society, please make sure that you keep them cool, store them at room temperature or in a refrigerator (below 24C, but do not freeze them);
3. Send samples to us at the Society ASAP for testing to the laboratory using the padded addressed envelope that has been provided by your tag sample provider;
4. They must be received by the Society within seven days of the sample being taken, overdue samples cannot be tested.

Keep all samples out of direct sunlight and send your samples to:  
The British Charolais Cattle Society, Avenue M, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth,  
Warwickshire, CV8 2RG.

## British Charolais Society DNA Test Fees

Test Type	Pending Sample Cost	Full Price
SNP Parentage & Myostatin	£27.00 + VAT	£32.00 + VAT
SNP Parentage, Myostatin & Polled	£29.00 + VAT	£34.00 + VAT
Additional Test Type	Cost	
Additional Sires & Dams	£4.00 + VAT	
Sire Search	£9.00 + VAT	
Profile Certificate	£3.50 + VAT	
Imported Animal Profile	£3.50 + VAT	