



## Giraffe Reproductive Assessment by Fecal Hormone Monitoring: Sample Collection & Shipping

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<u>How often should I collect fecals?</u> Collect 3 fecal samples per week for 4 weeks (total of 12 samples per giraffe). Collect on non-consecutive days (skip a day or two between collections, for example, Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturday). Collection days do not need to be the same for each giraffe. Collect samples within 4 hours of defecation.

<u>How much sample? What do I do with the sample?</u> Each fecal sample should be the size of a small lime and placed in a freezer-safe Ziploc bag. Label each sample with the following information:

- Facility
- Animal name/ID
- Date of sample

Freeze the samples immediately to prevent possible degradation of hormone metabolites. Store samples in a standard freezer until all samples are collected, and then ship in one package.

**How & where to ship?** Ship fecals in an insulated container with ice packs to keep samples frozen via standard next day shipping to:

## Morfeld Research & Conservation, LLC

Attn: Dr. Kari Morfeld 2116 S. 156th Circle Omaha, NE 68130

Please notify Dr. Kari that you are shipping samples via email or text and include tracking information if possible. Shipments can be received Monday-Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm.

<u>How do I get Results</u>? Within 1 week of samples arriving at the lab, you will receive results via email with your "Giraffe Hormone Report".

Please contact me if you need supplies (fecal bags, boxes for shipping, ice packs, etc.) or with <u>any questions!</u> Thank you! ~Dr. Kari