

Certified CWD Collector Fact Sheet

- A certified chronic wasting disease (CWD) collector should never submit a CWD suspect or abnormal animal, but instead notify an accredited veterinarian, state or federal official.
- Cervids **12 months of age** and older that die for any reason or those harvested on the farm must be sampled.
- Samples must be collected and submitted to the laboratory **within 7 days of death**.
- Submit the **obex** (specified part of the brainstem) and both **retropharyngeal lymph nodes** in a labeled formalin jar.
- Remove a piece of the ear (nickel-size or a piece of hide if a trophy animal) attached to the official ID device and place in a sealable plastic bag.
- Place bagged ear/hide in freezer until ready to ship with CWD samples.
- If no official identification is in the ear, the producer must provide a new tag and reference that tag on the submission form and in the records.
- Official forms of identification include: an 840 official tag or a USDA NUES tag (i.e. 32WMD4594)
- Make sure all samples are properly labeled. Label the jar and the sealed ear/hide official ID bag with the owner's name, all animal identification, and the collection date.
- Complete ADDL CWD Submission Form. Make a copy for your records and send the original with the samples.
- Make checks payable to: Purdue University. Verify cost with ADDL.
- A certified CWD collector must keep records on every cervid sampled. A copy of the submission form will suffice.
- **CWD collector certification is a privilege, not a right!** Regional staff will be notified if specimens are improperly collected and handled. Repeated errors may result in the loss of certification.

