

Protocol for Submission of Quail Samples for Parasitic Worm Analysis

The Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation is delighted to announce, that we will continue to examine quail samples for eye and cecal worms at no cost to you! If you are interested in participating, please see the suggested protocol below and you **must complete & include the [Quail Parasite Sample Submission Form](#)** with your birds.

Purpose:

This protocol outlines the procedure for hunters and landowners to collect and submit quail samples (heads and ceca) for the determination of parasitic worm prevalence (eye and cecal worms) to the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch (RPQRR). Samples will be used to monitor and assess the impact of parasitic infections in bobwhite quail populations, especially from properties administering QuailGuard medicated feed.

Materials Needed for Sample Collection:

1. Sealable plastic bags (for wing, heads and ceca)
2. Permanent marker (to label bags)
3. Disposable gloves (optional, for sample collection)
4. Insulated cooler or foam container with ice packs (for shipping samples)
5. Data form (see below)
6. Shipping materials (box, tape, etc.)

Sample Collection Instructions:

In a gallon Ziploc, please include smaller sandwich bag size Ziplocs for the head, wing, and carcass (minus the breasts and whatever other parts you want to eat).

1. Head Collection (for Eye Worm Analysis):

After harvesting a quail, immediately remove the head and one wing from the body. Place each head & wing in a separate plastic bag (1 bird per bag). Make sure the bag is sealed securely.

2. Ceca Collection (for Cecal Worm Analysis):

Remove the ceca (paired pouches located near the lower intestines) from the quail. Place each set of ceca in a separate plastic bag. Ensure the bag is sealed tightly to prevent leakage.

3. Labeling Samples:

Using a permanent marker, label each bag with the following information:

- Full name of the person submitting the sample
- County of harvest
- Date of harvest
- Sample number (Please ensure head, wing and ceca from the same bird have corresponding sample numbers)

- Sex and age of bird
- Number of samples included

4. Storage Before Shipping:

Keep samples cold by storing them in a cooler with ice packs or in a refrigerator until they are ready to be shipped. Samples can also be frozen. It is important to send samples as soon as possible to ensure the integrity of the material.

Sample Submission:

1. Data Form:

Complete a [Quail Parasite Sample Submission Form](#) with the following information for each submission:

- Full name of the person submitting the sample
- Phone number and email (in case of questions, and for your report for samples from your property)
- County of harvest
- Date of harvest
- Number of samples submitted (number of heads and number of ceca)
- Any additional comments or observations

2. Packaging Samples for Shipment:

- Ensure all samples are securely sealed in individual bags and that they are placed in an insulated cooler or foam container with sufficient ice packs to keep them cold. – Pack the cooler/foam container inside a sturdy shipping box. Seal the box with strong tape.

3. Shipping Address:

Samples should be sent via overnight or expedited shipping to ensure they remain cold during transit. Please address all packages to:

Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch

Attn: Parasite Research

1262 US Highway 180 West

Rotan, TX 79546

Important Notes:

- Ensure that the box is clearly marked “Keep Cold” on the outside.

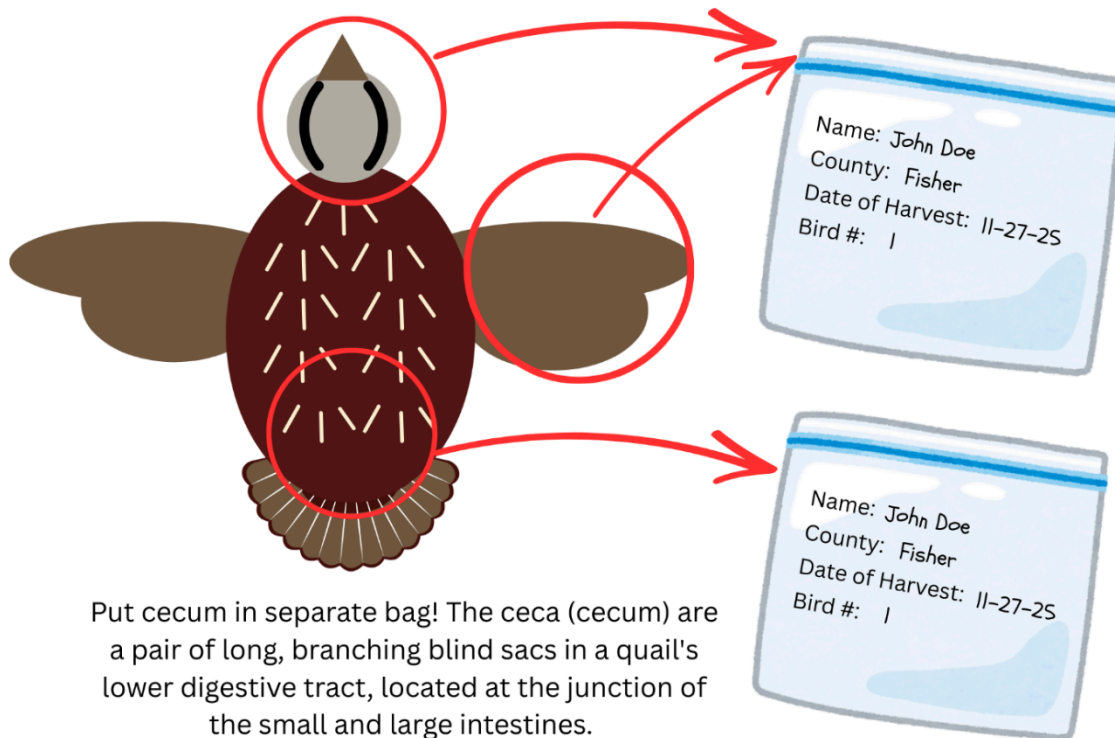
For any questions or clarification regarding this protocol, please contact the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, Dr. Ryan O’Shaughnessy at (321) 279-6506 or email rosbaughnessy@quailresearch.org.

Special Thanks to Park Cities Quail Coalition for their continued support of this research!



QUAIL PARASITE RESEARCH

Head & Wing in one bag!



Put cecum in separate bag! The ceca (cecum) are a pair of long, branching blind sacs in a quail's lower digestive tract, located at the junction of the small and large intestines.



Another option, and most preferred, is to leave bird intact (don't separate head, wings or internal organs), remove edible parts (you keep those) and then send us the rest in 1 Ziploc bag.

