

What You Need

- (1) Printed Blood Card Sheet Located Online at www.vetdnacenter.com/files/additional-bloodcards.pdf
– Print on Plain White Copy or Printer Paper
- (1) Printed Avian DNA Sample Submission Form Located Online at www.vetdnacenter.com/files/avian-DNA-order-form.pdf
- (1) Small Plastic Bag or Envelope (per Bird)
- Sanitized Nail Clippers
- Coagulant to Clot Bleeding from Nail (Kwik Stop, Cornstarch,
- Rubbing Alcohol & Cotton Ball / Swab Flour or Baking Soda)

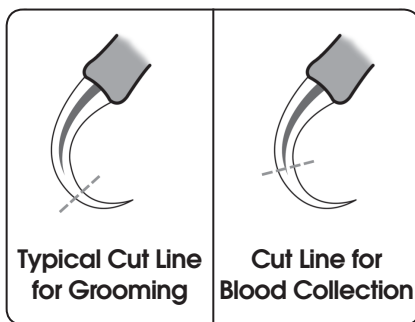
CAUTION: In order to prevent cross-contamination, avoid touching the circle on the Avian Blood Card where the blood is to be placed. If you are collecting samples from more than one bird, you should sanitize the nail clippers with alcohol and wash your hands thoroughly between each collection.

Collection Procedure

1. Label Each Blood Card to be Used

Before you collect each DNA sample, label the blood card with:

- Submitter's / Owner's Name
- Bird's species (Sun Conure, Senegal Parrot, etc.)
- Bird's ID (Name or Band Number)



2. Clip Toenail to Obtain a Blood Sample

With the bird under control, examine the toenail to ensure it is clean. A swab of alcohol can be used to clean the area if necessary. Use a sanitized pair of nail clippers to clip the bird's toenail just enough to nick the vein (approximately 2/3 of the distance from the root of the nail) and produce a drop of blood.

3. Spot Blood on the Blood Card

Place the blood card underneath the cut nail and allow the card to absorb a drop of blood. It is not necessary to completely fill the circle on the card, just be sure to collect enough blood to be visible (usually 1-3 drops of blood).

4. Allow the Blood Sample to Air Dry Completely

Once the sample has been collected, set the blood card aside to air dry on a clean surface. Check that the bird is no longer bleeding before returning it to its cage. To stop further bleeding, apply a coagulant, such as Kwik Stop, cornstarch, flour or baking soda to the area. Once the card is completely dry (60-90 minutes), insert it into a small re-sealable plastic bag or envelope. Use one bag / envelope per sample. Avoid touching the blood sample area while handling the card. Storage of blood cards in plastic when cards are not completely dry may lead to bacterial and fungal growth. Do not seal the plastic bag unless the sample has had ample time to dry.

5. Mail to DDC Veterinary

Complete the Avian DNA sample submission form (available at www.vetdnacenter.com/files/avian-DNA-order-form.pdf) with your information (Note: an email address is required for receiving results), information about each bird collected, and payment details. Place the blood card sample, sample submission form and payment (if applicable) into a mailing envelope and mail to:

DDC Veterinary
One DDC Way
Fairfield, OH 45014 USA

Questions? Contact DDC Veterinary at 1-800-625-0874 or email contact@vetdnacenter.com