BSL Testing Turnaround and Sample Retention Times

Test type	Typical test turnaround times (business days/weeks)	Sample retention times#(#or 3 days after the final report whichever is the greatest time.)2 weeks after authorisation of results	
Biochemistry analysis and complete blood counts (outsourced)	2 to 5 days		
Biochemistry toxicology	Animal samples3 daysPlant samples1 week	2 weeks after authorisation of results	
Blood films	Diagnostic blood films2 daysExport blood films2 weeks (or by arrangement)	60 days (28 days if no further tests are assigned)	
Export or health testing	HT-J PCR (Johne's disease) 4 weeks	Negative samples – 2 weeks after authorisation of results Positive samples - 6 months	
Hendra virus polymerase chain reaction	Same day (2 pm cut off)	4 weeks after authorisation of results	
Histopathology	2 weeks	Slides3 yearsBlocks10 yearsUnblocked formalised tissue6 weeksafter authorisation of results.	
Microbiology	Aerobes5 daysAnaerobes7 daysBrucella7 daysBurkholderia5 daysJohne's disease culture14 weeksFungi3 weeksMycoplasma3 weeks	4 weeks after sample receipt	
Necropsy	2 days	4 weeks after sample receipt	

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Test type	Typical test turnaround times (business days/weeks)		Sample retention times [#] (*or 3 days after the final report whichever is the greatest time.)
Parasitology	Coprological tests and parasite identification <i>Trichinella spiralis</i> detection Larval culture Acaricide resistance assays	2 days 4 days 1-2 weeks 8 weeks	7 days after result authorisation (Except for blood smears - 60 days)
Polymerase chain reaction (except Hendra virus and emergency animal disease outbreaks)	1 week 2-3 weeks for high volume submissions (e.g <i>Tritrichomonas</i> <i>foetus</i> real-time PCR)		4 weeks after authorisation of results
Restricted Animal Matter	3 weeks		Negative samples – 30 days Positive samples – 3 years
Serology	2 weeks Tick fever ELISAs - 2 weeks		4 weeks after authorisation of results
Infertility testing	2 weeks		4 weeks after authorisation of results
Virology	6 weeks		4 weeks after authorisation of results
Samples where retesting and/or referral is likely	As for disciplines above		30 days from sample receipt

Please note:

- Typical turnaround times are estimated from when samples are received at the laboratory. They do not include courier time.
- These are typical turnaround times for each test type and are provided as a guide. Times may vary in extenuating circumstances. For specific information about your submission or if you require a quicker turnaround time, contact the laboratory (Phone: (07) 3708 8762. Email: bslclo@daf.qld.gov.au).
- If testing is required in multiple disciplines (test types), there the turnaround time may be extended.

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