

Dr. Leslie A. Lyons  
University of California, Davis  
Telephone: 530-754-5546  
Fax: 530-752-1358  
lalyons@ucdavis.edu

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING BUCCAL CELLS

### FOR DNA TESTING AND GENETIC PROJECTS FOR CATS

1. Before collecting sample, make sure that the cat has not nursed or had anything to eat or drink 15 – 20 minutes **prior to collecting the sample**.
2. Sample **one** cat at a time. If samples are to be collected from several cats in the same session, complete steps 1-6 for one cat before sampling the next.
3. Provide a pedigree for each cat and your contact information (business card). The pedigree does not have to be official. Please comment on interesting traits found in the cat or any health concerns on the pedigree or in a separate letter.
4. Use **2 double-ended cotton swabs or 4 cytological brushes (4 total samples per cat)**. Place swab head against the inside of the cheek and gums under the whisker pad, not towards the back of the mouth. **Swirl vigorously 8 – 10 times**. Use both ends of the cotton swabs.

(The cat's mouth should not bleed, do not press very hard, but make good contact with the cheek and gums. If the cat will not allow a long contact, most samples will still have DNA if swabbing is done for only a couple of time)

5. Wave cotton swab or brush in the air for 20 seconds to air dry.
6. Place swabs into a paper envelope and seal. Write the cat's name on the outside of each sealed envelope, matching the pedigree name. **Do not wrap swabs in plastic wrap or seal in plastic bag.**
7. Place all samples, identification papers and notes into one envelope, return via:

#### **US mail or courier (FEDEX, DHL) delivery:**

Dr. Leslie A. Lyons  
Cat DNA Testing  
SVM:PHR, 1114 Tupper Hall  
University of California  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616

A courier may require a note to US Customs. Please use the attached information. The letter can be attached to the outside and placed inside the shipment. However, cat buccal swab samples do not generally require any special import requirements.

Date

Attention: US Customs  
List port of entry here

Re: DHL/FEDEX shipment  
Tracking No: PUT NO. HERE

To whom it may concern:

Enclosed please find a shipment of DNA samples as part of collaboration on domestic cat research. The package should possess paperwork and cytological brushes and/or cotton swabs pertaining to domestic cats. The cytological brushes have been used to collect buccal (cheeks) cells from the cats for the isolation of DNA, which will be used in genetic studies of cat health. These samples have been requested by and should be addressed to: Dr. Leslie Lyons at the University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine.

Below is the information required in accordance with USDA Guideline # 1102.

1. The samples are buccal cell samples of domestic cats from WHAT COUNTRY.
2. These samples do not contain any other animal-derived products, particularly of agricultural concern, such as fetal calf serum. They are domestic cat products only.
3. The samples are not derived from cats that have or have been exposed to agents that are infectious or contagious agents to human beings or of agricultural concern.
4. These samples have no commercial value, they are for research purposes only.

If this information is not sufficient, please contact Dr. Leslie Lyons at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine; phone: (530)754-5546 or (530) 752-7127, E-mail: lalyons@ucdavis.edu.

Best regards,

Signature

YOUR NAME

YOUR PHONE CONTACT