

## THE STEPS FOR TESTS –

1. Read the [AAA's Advice](#) and the [DPI's Overview](#).
2. Contact Alpaca Kisses and arrange an approximate pick-up time. Ideally the sample should be assessed within 24hrs from being deposited by the alpaca.
3. Get all the resources ready i.e.

- a. Sandwich size zip-lock bags - one for each individual alpaca.
- b. One large zip-lock bag to place all the individual bags in.
- c. Permanent Marker.
- d. Small Cooler Box with Label/Tag
- e. Frozen Ice Bricks



4. Label each small bag with the Farm ID / alpaca's ID / Sample Collection Date / Paddock ID.
5. Label the large bag with Farm ID / Pick-up Date & Time / No. of small bags / email / phone number.
6. Label the Cooler Box with Farm ID & Phone Number.
7. Have Cooler Box, frozen Cooler Brick/s, and large bag ready.
8. Place gloves on.
9. Collect an individual's clean faecal sample **as soon as it hits the ground**.
10. Use the 'inverted bag trick' to collect the sample. Collect a sample about the size of a matchbox.
11. Seal the bag and place it in the large bag in the Cooler Box. Avoid direct contact with the ice brick/s.
12. Collect a faecal sample from each alpaca, or samples from 10-15 individuals if you have a large herd. It is best to renew your gloves each time if the gloves are contacting the faecal matter.
13. Once you are ready you can call us to arrange a drop-off or pick-up. Remember, the clock is ticking, we have 24hrs! Samples may be refrigerated (but not frozen) if a delay is encountered.
14. A Count Report will be released upon receipt of invoice payment.
15. The service fee is \$50 for Sample #1, sample #2 to #5 at \$30 each, and samples #6+ at \$20 each (GST exempt). We recommend that you occasionally seek a count from an experienced NATA accredited laboratory to validate Alpaca Kisses' counts and to get a whipworm (*Trichuris*) count which is difficult to assess with traditional WEC techniques. On such occasions we will consider doing our usual count on the same (<10) sample set at no cost as our own quality assurance measure.
16. A pick-up or drop-off fee may need to be applied for more distant locations.
17. The counts will indicate worm egg classification and (based on established industry protocols) will indicate (for each individual) an estimated number of eggs per gram of faecal matter (i.e. the FEC or WEC).
18. Your herd's health manager or veterinarian will then be able to advise you as to the most appropriate treatment plan and paddock management strategy.

m: 0425 353 283

e: maria@alpacakisses.com