How to Find Us:

We are located on Clemson Road in Columbia, SC. Take exit 80 off of I-20 and follow Clemson Rd for approximately 2 miles. We are the 1st building on the right after the traffic light at the junction of Earth Road.

Trichomonas Testing at CVDC

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday: 8am - 4:30pm

Additional Receiving Hours:
(Receiving is located at the rear of building)
Monday - Friday: 4:30 - 6:30pm
Saturday: 10am - 2pm
Sunday: CLOSED

Holiday Schedule:
New Years, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas: CLOSED
Other state holidays (drop off): 10am - 2pm

Shipping/Street Address:
500 Clemson Rd
Columbia, SC 29229
Phone: 803-788-2260
Fax: 803-788-8058

Mailing Address:
P.O Box 102406
Columbia, SC 29224-2406
Trichomonas Testing

What is Trichomonas?
“Trich” is a sexually transmitted infectious disease of cattle. It is caused by a protozoan parasite *Tritrichomonas foetus*, which is about the size of a sperm. These parasites hide out in folds found on the penis and prepuce of the bull.

How is Trich spread?
Trich is spread at the time of breeding. Most often it is spread from the infected bull to an uninfected cow; however, spread from an infected cow to an uninfected bull can occur. Transmission from contaminated insemination equipment or CIDR devices has also been reported.

How do I know if my cows have Trich?
Bulls show no clinical signs of disease. The main indicator of infection is infertility in cows. Other clinical signs can include vaginal discharge or early term abortions. Infertility can have many causes, so if you and your vet have ruled out more common causes then consider testing for Trich.

How can I prevent Trich?
As bulls are carriers, especially older bulls (>3 years), regular testing of preputial/penis washes before breeding season can help detect infected bulls. Removal of infected bulls from breeding is recommended.

- Test all bulls before coming onto the farm.
- Using young or virgin bulls will greatly reduce the risk of Trich on the farm.
- Do not share or lease bulls and maintain good fences so that neighboring bulls can’t get into the pasture with your cows.
- Cows with Trich usually clear the infection on their own, which usually takes 90-95 days. Cows do not act as carriers, so once it is cleared they should be fine to breed. Caution should be used when re-breeding as the cow could spread Trich to an uninfected bull.

How can I test for Trich?
Sample collection must be performed by an accredited veterinarian and usually is done at the time of the breeding soundness exam.

Preputial/penile washes or scrapings are taken and placed in commercially available media. This InPouch media can be purchased by the veterinarian through BioMed Diagnostics, Inc. Contact Mary LaChapelle at 864-879-2089 to purchase the media. (www.biomeddiagnostics.com)

Testing at CVDC
In order to better serve the SC cattle industry we have added Trichomonas PCR and culture to our inventory of tests.

If you require Trich testing for your bulls we ask that you contact us a week ahead of collection so that we can coordinate our schedules to accommodate your testing needs.

How long will it take to get results?
From the time the sample is received at the lab, PCR results will take 48 hours to be returned. If culture and PCR is requested, results will take 7 days to be returned.

How much does testing cost?
PCR testing alone is $45/sample for 1-4 samples; $30/sample afterward.

PCR and culture is $50/sample for 1-4 samples; $35/sample afterward.

Important Information
At the current time the PCR and culture tests can only be run on samples in the InPouch media from BioMed Diagnostics.

During transport samples have to be kept in a temperature range of 59-98°F (15-37°C). If samples are kept out of this temperature range results will not be valid and repeat testing may be necessary.

More info on Trich can be found at:
http://www.clemson.edu/public/lph/ahp/images/trich.pdf