

**2024 Deadlines for TSU submissions are:**

March 1st    March 28th    April 25th    May 28th    June 28th

**IMPORTANT QUESTIONS:**

- Is your animal an F2 ewe? (VBSS recommends DNA testing - genotyping - for F2 ewes that will be used in the breed up program, so their DNA data is in the VBSS database and available for future parentage verification.)
- Is your animal an F3 or higher? (DNA parentage verification is required by VBSS).
- Do you have TSUs on hand? TSUs can be ordered from VBSS at [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com) or Flock 54, [Karissa.isaacs@superiorfarms.com](mailto:Karissa.isaacs@superiorfarms.com) or [www.valleyvet.com](http://www.valleyvet.com).
- Do you have a TSU applicator? The TSU applicator is a one-time purchase and can be ordered from [Karissa.isaacs@superiorfarms.com](mailto:Karissa.isaacs@superiorfarms.com) or [www.valleyvet.com](http://www.valleyvet.com).
- Do you have the Submission Forms? Handwritten notes will no longer be accepted. There are two Excel forms. The VBSS Producer Submission Form for Genotyping and the VBSS Parental Verification Form. Request these forms at [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com). To reduce errors, producers need to complete the forms in Excel and email the Excel files back to [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com).
- Did you pay for your DNA testing? This can be done on your Grassroots account. It is \$20/TSU sample (\$18.00/DNA test + \$2.00 shipping).
- Did you email [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com) with any questions?

**TSU or TISSUE SAMPLING UNIT:**

- TSU samples can be taken from the lamb's ear as soon as it is born which allows your lambs to be registered faster.
- TSU samples are considered "shelf stable" for up to one year and do not require refrigeration which reduces the shipping cost.
- TSU samples arrive at the laboratory with intact, useable DNA and typically provide enough DNA for retests if necessary.
- The small hole made in the lamb's ear is minimal and not detrimental to the lamb and can be used for identification tags.

## **SAMPLING**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTVLR-nMr00>

This YouTube video demonstrates how to load the TSU into the applicator and take a tissue sample.

- Did you check if you can see the tissue sample in the TSU?
- Did you record which animal belongs to the sample number off the TSU?

## **SUBMISSION FORMS**

### **VBSS Producer Submission Form for Genotyping**

- Did you check off the box for the data to be included in the VBSS database?
- Did you complete all the highlighted areas?

### **VBSS Parentage Verification Form**

- Did you include the BDI#s?
- Did you check off the box for the data to be included in the VBSS database?
- Did you complete all the highlighted areas?
- Email completed Excel Submission Form(s) to [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com)
- Mail samples to Shipping Address:

VBSS  
PO BOX 494  
Mead, CO 80542

## **REVIEW RESULTS**

- Did you open and review the Flock 54 results for accuracy?
- Did you call Karissa with any discrepancies?

## **FINAL STEP**

- Email Flock 54 results to [VBSSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:VBSSinfo@gmail.com)