## Sampling - Instructions

# Determining the sex of birds (DNA)

The principle of sex determination in birds is the distinction between ZZ or ZW chromosomes in a taken sample. The diagnostic laboratory SEVARON PORADENSTVÍ s.r.o. uses the **Real Time PCR method** to determine sex, which allows for more accurate analysis and evaluation.

#### Suitable biological samples for sex determination:

- 2-3 drops of blood wiped onto a cotton swab
- beak swab (always use two swabs for one bird)
- 3-5 plucked feathers (ideally with the pulp at the end of the quill)

## Procedure for sample collection:

#### A) BLOOD

- 1) Clean the injection site on the toe (toe pad) or claw to remove dirt and feces before trimming.
- 2) make a gentle prick on the fingertip or trim the nail
- 3) apply a cotton swab to the drop of blood
- 4) Inhale and repeat about 2 3 times
- 5) let the blood dry
- 6) Insert the cotton swab back into the packaging
- 7) Fill out the request form and send it along with the samples to the laboratory

### B) BEAK SWAB

## Take the swab from weaned young or 1-2 hours after feeding by the parents or supplementary feeding!

- 1) Remove the swab from the packaging, do not touch the cotton tip, and avoid contact with the surroundings (e.g., cage, perch, walls, ...).
- 2) Restrain the bird or at least isolate it from the others.
- 3) Carefully insert the swab into the beak or offer the cotton part and wait until the bird opens its beak, then insert the cotton swab into the beak cavity.
- 4) Rotate a cotton swab inside the beak cavity so that the inner walls of the beak's mucosa, or possibly the tongue, touch the cotton part. It is desirable for the bird to bite the swab, but it must not be bitten off or broken.
- 5) insert the tampon back into the packaging
- 6) Repeat the swab using the same procedure with the second swab.
- 7) Fill out the request form and send it along with the samples to the laboratory.

### C) PLUCKED FEATHERS

- 1) Hold the bird.
- 2) Using tweezers or gloves, pull out 3-5 feathers with the pulp (blood at the end of the quill).
- 3) Let the feathers dry.
- 4) Put them in a zip bag.
- 5) Label the bag (e.g., with the ring number, serial number, or bird's name).
- 6) Fill out the request form and send it along with the samples to the laboratory.

# Instructions for filling out the request form and labeling samples

- Clearly fill in the owner's or payer's information
- signature
- whether you have/do not have a prepaid test package
- how you wish to receive the results and invoice
- write the serial number on the collection swabs, which must match the serial number on the back of the request form (see photo)
- A) front and back side of the request form sample collection by swabbing from the beak (both swabs must be labeled, see example)





B) back side of the request form - blood sample collection (front side identical, see A))

