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Governor

# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Wes Ward  
Secretary of Agriculture

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## Notification of Changes to Shipping Policies

Due to an increase in shipping and handling costs across all service providers, effective August 1, 2024, the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) will assess a \$25.00 shipping fee for any submission that requires us to ship specimens to an outside agency.

To help maintain efficient workflows, samples will be shipped to reference laboratories only on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week. Samples will be stored at an appropriate temperature until packaged for shipping. Submitters who send samples to the laboratory only for repackaging and/or rerouting to other laboratories are encouraged to send samples directly to the laboratory that performs the requested testing.

If the laboratory is temporarily unable to perform a test listed in the fee book, associated samples will be forwarded to an approved reference laboratory for testing. Samples will be forwarded at no added charge to the clients.

For a current list of tests offered by the VDL, please refer to the *List of Test and Fees*, located at [agriculture.arkansas.gov/livestock-poultry/veterinary-diagnostic-lab/](http://agriculture.arkansas.gov/livestock-poultry/veterinary-diagnostic-lab/).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the lab directly by email at [receiving@agriculture.arkansas.gov](mailto:receiving@agriculture.arkansas.gov) or by phone at 501-823-1730.

Thank you for partnering with us in providing exceptional services to your fellow Arkansans.

Sharon Pulla, Ph.D.  
Director of Laboratory Services  
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