

January 2007

## BIRDSTRIKE COLLECTING KITS

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"BIRDSTRIKE COLLECTING KITS" (2007). *Other Bird Strike and Aviation Materials*. 11.  
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## **BIRDSTRIKE COLLECTING KITS**

The following are suggestions for items that may be included in pre-packaged birdstrike collecting kits. The final kit contents are really up to each individual airfield depending on contacts, protocols, how much you want to spend, etc. All of the items are easy to get and relatively inexpensive. Some items may be found on lab safety or veterinary supply websites. Items include:

### **Ziploc® / self seal baggies**

A variety of sizes. All material and/or collecting items should be placed in a Ziploc® / self seal plastic bag to help contain the material. Don't be afraid to double bag if needed.

### **Sharpie markers**

Any permanent marker that is water resistant.

### **Paper towels**

Best for wiping "snarge" off aircraft. Any brand paper towel will do. Shop towels that come in a roll also work. It is a good idea to put all material into a folded paper towel – then place the whole thing in a Ziploc® bag. This helps keep any liquid material contained. It's also good to have paper towels and hand sanitizers to clean up after collecting bird remains (see Safety Collecting Guidelines)

### **Miscellaneous items to collect material**

Kitchen shears (good for feet & wings), tongue depressors, tweezers, cotton swabs, gauze pads.

### **Forms / reports**

Use the standard procedure at your airfield for recording birdstrike event details pertaining to the strike. Official forms include FAA 5200-7 and Air Force 853.

### **Submission Instructions**

Print out instructions for protocols of submitting remains. Include things like Point of Contact for reporting, where to store remains, contact list, etc. This can be a simple step-by-step or checkbox format.

If the field personnel are responsible for shipping remains, include pre-addressed envelopes. Tyvek® envelopes help keep liquid or moist material contained.

### **Latex Gloves**

### **Protective Eyewear**

(Collecting Kits cont.)

### **Face Mask**

Regular surgical-type hygiene masks. If avian flu is a concern for you, the CDC recommends NIOSH rated N95 face masks. These masks may be referred to as respirators. There is a disposable version of these masks by 3M that looks similar to the regular “cup” face masks.

### **Cleansers**

Most bacteria/virus’ (such as HPAI H5N1 avian flu virus) are easily killed by detergents and thorough cleaning. Current disinfectants noted on avian flu websites include: 10% bleach, 70% alcohol, Lysol®, Roccal®-D, Nolvasan®, CaviCide®. Also, Purell® or other alcohol based gel hand sanitizer. In our lab we have bleach & alcohol in spray bottles. (We also wash our hands a lot!)

### **Notes:**

Always encourage proper hygiene & provide personnel easy access to cleaning/hand washing supplies.

Currently, there are no special collecting methods for DNA analysis. The typical “paper towel swipe” is sufficient. We do recommend using alcohol for “snarge”. Rinsing the area w/ water afterwards may help if corrosion is a concern. We will revise these methods as needed in the future.

Please review and refer to the “Feather Identification Lab – general information” sheet for current contact info, shipping address’ and material collecting info.

Stay informed to the status of the HPAI H5N1 avian flu virus in North America.

Be sure personnel are briefed on proper disposal of carcasses

Don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions!

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(rev 1/18/07 MHS)