

Parentage Verification

Parentage verification can confirm the relationship between an offspring and their presumed parents. Most usually this is used to confirm the paternity of offspring, but the relationship to the dam will also be confirmed by this analysis.

In order to perform this analysis samples from the offspring, the dam and all possible sires are required. Please indicate on submission whether the sample is from the offspring, dam or possible sire. It is important that samples from all possible sires are submitted for analysis, as an animal which is closely related to the actual parent could qualify as the parent. Ideally a parentage verification request should be submitted together with other relevant identifying information such as microchip number or tattoo number.

Parentage verification can be performed free of charge using DNA profiles generated previously for the animals concerned.

The result will indicate whether the proposed parent is excluded as a parent or qualifies as a parent. Please note that while exclusions are 100% accurate, qualifications are not. In order to avoid erroneous parentage qualifications breeders should ensure that all possible sires are included in the analysis – this is especially important where possible sires are related.

The analysis is performed using DNA profiling. This profile will be kept on record for future parentage queries or for future reference where the identity of the animal may need to be confirmed.

This test is particularly useful for breeders:

- To confirm the familial relationship between an offspring and his dam and sire
- To produce a permanent genetic reference for their animal for use at any time during the animal's lifetime where parentage needs to be confirmed or where its identity may be questioned.