



THE BIRD RING COMPANY

We **do not** need a blood **AND** feather, you can choose whichever is most convenient.

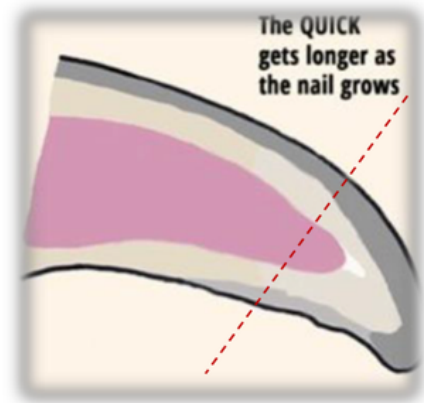
If you feel able to extract blood from your bird it is more accurate, however you follow these instructions at your **own risk**.

1. Blood sample from a clip

Before beginning, please ensure you have a way to coagulate the blood and stop the bleeding!

We would highly recommend a silver nitrate pen or 'Trimmex' – please refer to manufacturers guidelines before using either method.

- Use a clean, sanitised pair of clippers to confidently clip through the quick in the claw. Do not clip too far up as this can be difficult to later stop bleeding.
 - This picture shows the correct location to clip:
- If you see blood straight away you have correctly clipped the claw. If the blood then stops, **do not clip again** – this is normal.
- Allow the bird to relax and remove any tension from the feet.
- Blood should begin dripping in around 30-60 seconds.
- Collect a fresh sample (2-3 drops) onto the lab paper provided and allow to dry. Only clip again if no blood shows after 60 seconds.
- Stop the bleeding once a sample has been captured by either using a 'stop' pen (silver nitrate) or a product such as 'Trimmex'.
- Once dried, you can then place in the bag and return to us.
- If you have proceeded with a nail clip without the above products and cannot stop the bleeding you should consult your nearest veterinarian or in cases of emergency you can hold a pinch of cornflour on the end of the claw which will coagulate and stop the bleeding.



2. Feather sample (recommended for people not experienced with extracting blood)

Remember to wash your hands between birds in order to prevent any cross-contamination.

The best place for sampling feathers is either the breast, cloacal region, or the top of the leg.

Note: NEVER pull functional feathers out such as wing feathers or new, blood feathers.

- Grab a pinch of 3-4 feathers and in one confident pluck, pull them from the bird. It is far less stressful for the bird if you can confidently get the feathers first time, than not pull enough and have to repeat the attempt.
- Ensure the feathers are intact, and place inside the provided bag.
- Do not send moulted feathers as these no longer contain the DNA-rich blood clot at the calamus – we cannot extract DNA from moulted feathers!
- We need 3-4 feathers or more in order to sex your bird.