

CWD Genomic Susceptibility Subsidization Program Application

This application is required for enrollment in the CWD Genomic Susceptibility Subsidization Program, which allows for the use of USDA grant funds to subsidize testing via the North American Deer Registry (NADR). Results from this testing will include a Genomically Estimated Breeding Value (GEBV) for each deer along with an interpretation of the results from Dr. Chris Seabury (Texas A&M University), pioneer and creator of this service.

This program allows each Herd Certification Program (HCP) participant to submit up to 12 samples from breeding white-tailed deer and each Herd Monitoring Program (HMP) participant to submit up to five samples until March 21, 2022. After March 21, 2022 and August 15, 2022 HCP and HMP may submit samples from up to 24 deer per participant until funds are exhausted. If funds remain after August 15, 2022, there will be no limit to the number of deer samples submitted per participant until funds are exhausted or until September 30, 2022, the end date of the program. Please note – the day samples are received by the laboratory will determine which round of funds disbursement applies.

Deer Eligibility - Each participating deer must adhere to the following rules:

- 1) Must be a white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). Hybrids and other species are not eligible.
- 2) Each deer must have official ID in place and must be listed as existing in the herd with the same ID on the most recently submitted herd inventory.
- 3) If the deer dies while still in your possession, it must be tested for CWD and the results must be shared with Dr. Seabury to further his research into CWD resistance.
- 4) The cost of testing is \$75 per animal. The grant will cover \$50 of this testing for each eligible deer and the owner/participant will be responsible for making payment directly to NADR for the remaining amount due. Testing will not be performed until payment from the owner is received by NADR and NADR is able to confirm funds sufficient to cover the subsidized portion are available. Unfunded samples will not be tested until payment has been received by NADR. NADR membership is not required.
- 5) The herd participant must consent to allow NADR to share aggregated, anonymized data by state with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA). This data will be limited to GEBV scores for each deer that are not associated with individual deer. A separate spreadsheet generated by NADR will be shared with PDA that provides farm/participant name, date of sample receipt, number of samples received, official ID for samples received, total amount due, amount paid by participant, and amount due from the grant. This is purely for financial accountability purposes to ensure the grant money is being spent towards improving captive cervid resistance to CWD.
- 6) Animals known to be CWD positive and those with illness suspicious of CWD are not eligible for this program. NADR cannot accept samples from these animals.

Instructions for Submission

- 1) A full thickness ear punch of the pinna, no less than 2mm diameter, must be submitted in an Allflex tissue sampling tube or similar device. If an Allflex tissue sampling tube is not available, the tissue should be sealed in a clean genomics hair card. Great care must be taken to prevent cross contamination of samples and gloves should not be worn when collecting hair samples as hair is likely to stick to them and end up in the wrong sample.
- 2) The cervid owner or farm manager or designee thereof is responsible for sending the submission form to RA-AG-GEBV@pa.gov or address to Bureau of Animal Health – GEBV CWD Program, 2301 North Cameron Street, Room 412, Harrisburg, PA 17110. The submission form will be reviewed to ensure eligibility.
- 3) A copy of the submission form must also be enclosed with the samples. Samples are to be sent directly to NADR at 1601 Medical Center Drive, Suite 1, Edmond, OK 73034.
- 4) Samples may be collected by the herd owner, herd manager or designee or by an accredited veterinarian. It is critical that samples are properly and clearly labeled to ensure the animal listed on the report matches the animal from which the sample was taken.
- 5) The herd manger/owner is responsible for making payment for their portion (\$25 per test) directly to NADR by check or credit card (please see [NADR \(nadeerregistry.com\)](http://NADR(nadeerregistry.com)) for a credit card authorization form). The \$50 subsidization from the grant will be paid directly from PDA to NADR. The owner's portion of the payment MUST be received by NADR BEFORE ANY TESTING CAN OCCUR.