

Appendix 3: Sample distribution

All Scottish samples (n = 250) were sent to Fera for distribution to the project partners, whereas the Northern Irish samples (n = 49) were dispatched directly to QUB.

To ensure that each institute received the correct number of samples to fulfil their analysis requirements a shipping schedule was developed. The revised sample distribution plan is illustrated below.

Revised sample distribution – Fera:

- Fera received a total of 250 beef samples (raw) from 7 Scottish plants
 - 96 beef samples (raw) were sent to QUB
 - 50g of each sample were kept raw at Fera as archive, pending on sample size
- Fera freeze-dried and homogenised 154 samples
 - 299 were analysed for CNS and 154 for H (defatted)
 - All (n = 154, freeze-dried/homogenised) were sent to JHI (Sr ratios)
 - 1/3 (n = 50, freeze-dried/homogenised) were sent to QUB (Pb ratios)

Revised sample distribution – QUB:

- QUB received a total of 145 beef samples (raw)
 - 49 beef samples (raw) directly from 2 plants in Northern Ireland
 - 50g of each sample were kept raw at QUB as archive, pending sample size
 - 96 beef samples (raw) were received from Fera
- QUB freeze-dried and homogenised 145 samples
 - All (n = 145) were analysed for H (defatted)
 - 25 samples from NI and 125 samples[#] from Scotland were analysed for Pb ratios
 - All (n = 145, freeze-dried/homogenised) were sent to JHI (Sr ratios)

[#] Sample pool derived from Fera (n = 50) and QUB (n = 75)

Revised sample distribution – JHI:

- JHI received 145 beef samples from QUB and 154 beef samples from Fera (all freeze-dried/homogenised)
- JHI analysed these for Sr ratios