

Large Animal Necropsies: Techniques & Sample Collection for Veterinary Technicians

An overview of the Veterinary Technicians' role in performing large animal necropsies and proper sample collection for laboratory submission.

Speaker Bio:

Meg Harrington BS, CVT, is a Certified Veterinary Technologist that specializes in livestock consulting and production animal care for Nashville Animal Hospital located in Nashville, Arkansas. Meg will sit for her Production Animal Internal Medicine board exam with the Academy of Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians in June 2023. Growing up on a cow/calf operation in southern Indiana, she has always had a passion for the cattle industry. She graduated from Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine with a degree in Veterinary Technology in 2010. Meg has a strong desire to educate and develop herd health programs specific to the needs of her producers through risk assessment and disease surveillance, in addition to helping them see the economic benefit of utilizing certain products to boost production through weight gain, increased reproductive performance, and facilitate ways to decrease morbidity and mortality in high-risk cattle. Meg advocates for keeping production animals healthy, keeping our food supply safe, and keeping America fed.

Learning Objectives:

1. Benefits of performing necropsies in large animal patients.
2. How to perform a necropsy in a large animal patient and recognize abnormal pathology.
3. Proper sample collection and submission techniques following a necropsy.

Agenda:

- Benefits of a necropsy
 - Client education
 - Increase technician knowledge of pathology.
- Preparation
 - PPE
 - Necropsy kit checklist
- Procedure
 - Patient positioning
 - External examination
 - Internal examination
 - Additional procedures
- Sample collection
 - Specimen collection

- Laboratory submission