

# Meningeal Worm

## White-tailed deer hunters

Meningeal worm (*Parelaphostrongylus tenuis*: P tenuis) recently invaded northeast Alberta. It is harmless in whitetails, but can cause fatal infections in mule deer, caribou, moose, and some elk. It does not infect people. Environment and Protected Areas is trying to identify how widespread the parasite is in the northeast.

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas is asking hunters to provide:

- Faecal samples from any white-tailed deer harvested in eastern WMU 500 series (WMU 500 to 519, plus 529, 530, and 531)

### To submit a sample:

- Collect deer pellets (~20–30) in a small sealable plastic bag (e.g. ziplock). Double bag the sample. Keep sample cool then freeze before submitting.
- Fill out BOTH sides of a CWD label with your WIN# and all of the required deer and harvest information.
- **Write the CWD # on the sample bag.**
- Use a zip tie to attach the completed CWD label to each sample.
- During November, drop off frozen samples:
  - in designated CWD freezers (check CWD web pages for freezer locations)
  - at designated Environment and Protected Areas offices in Edmonton (Twin Atria), Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Slave Lake, and Spruce Grove

