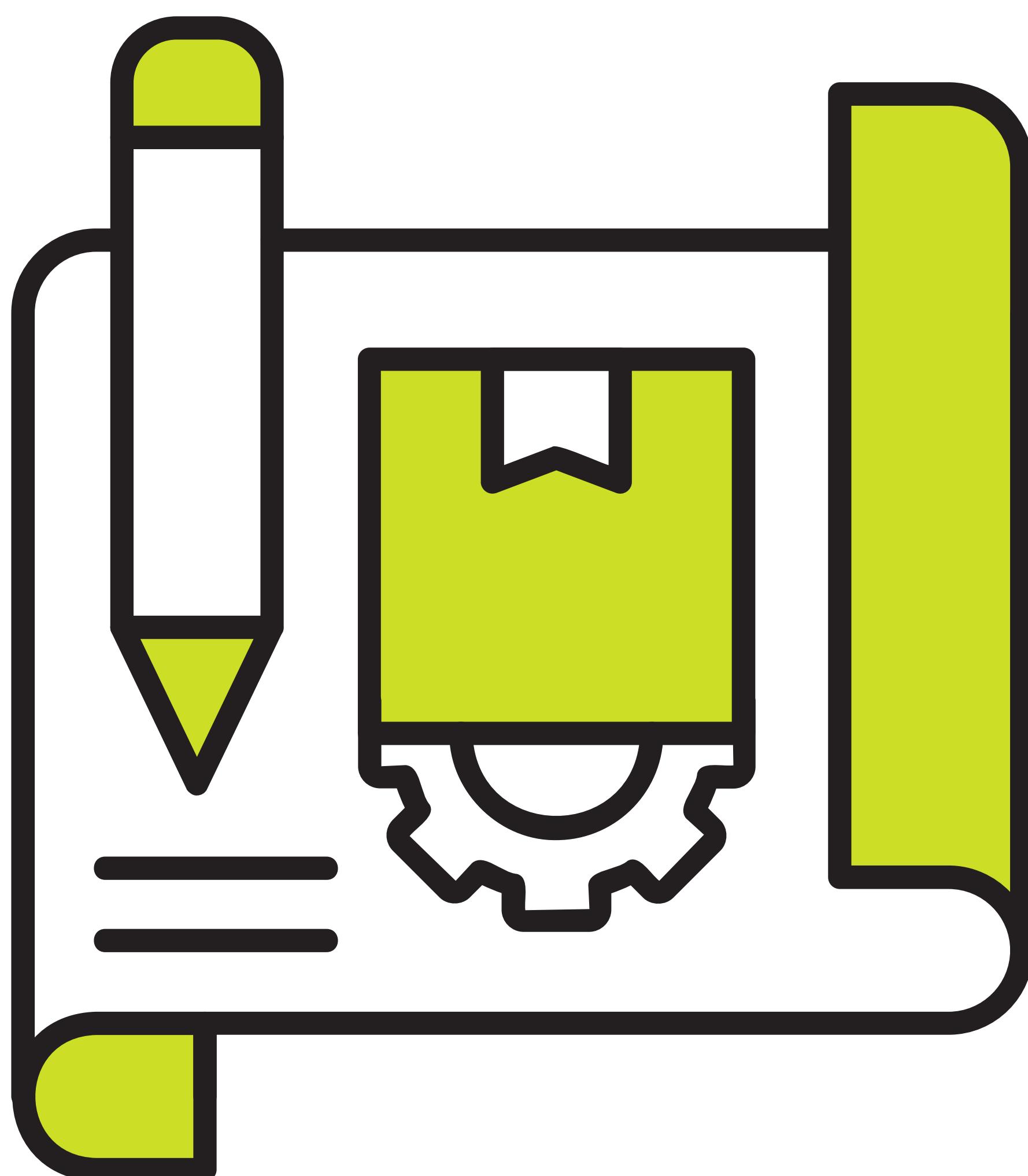




HoloRuminant
Understanding microbiomes of the ruminant holobiont

HOLORUMINANT PROTOCOL

Protocol for Faecal Sampling



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PROTOCOL FOR FAECAL SAMPLING

Materials needed:

- ◆ Gloves
- ◆ Plastic bags (single use bags, several sizes for double bagging and/or aliquoting)

Notes: Aliquoting samples immediately after sampling is advantageous because each aliquot can be used for different analyses, or even as backup, thus avoiding thawing and refreezing, which causes degradation to the DNA in the sample.

Label the bags before collecting samples, as writing on them becomes difficult once they contain faecal matter.

1. Label the sample bag, including animal identification number, type of sample, and date of collection.
2. Wear new gloves for each new animal.
3. Insert your hand into bigger bag from the outside.
4. Manually grab sample from rectum in the larger bag. Collect at least 5g of sample.
5. Close bag. You can double-bag the sample for extra security.
6. Flatten the bag.

Are you aliquoting the sample immediately after collection?



7. Label the smaller bags before aliquoting.
8. Cut a small whole in the corner of the larger bag.
9. Pipe small amounts of sample into the new smaller bags (at least 1g of sample in each small bag).
10. Close and flatten the bags.
11. Freeze aliquots at -80°C.
7. Snap freeze in liquid nitrogen (or dry ice) before long term storage (freeze at -80°C or store in liquid nitrogen).