



Cheese Alive! Sample Donation Information Sheet



We appreciate your sample for our cheese microbiome study! We plan to investigate which bacteria live inside all types of cheese to determine how the microbial community varies from one cheese to the next.

Instructions for Cheese Donations for our research project are as follows:

1) Wrap a piece of cheese (minimum size: 4 inch square or 4 inches across center of a wedge; approximately 100 grams) in plastic wrap or a bag. Larger pieces are appreciated so we can easily cut away the outside edges, especially if it is a soft cheese.

2) Fill out this information sheet and package it with your cheese sample in a Styrofoam cooler with ice packs. Drop off or ship overnight mail to the following address:

Christina Roche/Marianne Barrier
NC Museum of Natural Sciences
11 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 707-9286

3) Email the NRC Genomics & Microbiology Lab: NRCgenomicsMicro@gmail.com

Use Subject: *Cheese Alive donation* to let us know when this package is expected to arrive, or plan a drop off time. (Attach the filled form to the email to let us know what is coming.)

Please answer as many of the following questions as possible to help us better understand your sample:

1. Your name (or "anonymous" if you do not wish to disclose): _____
2. Contact - email or phone (if not anonymous): _____
3. Type of cheese (e.g. Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, etc.): _____
4. Host animal and description of cheese (e.g. cow; Semi-soft; aged 6 months; rind washed; etc.):

5. The store where you bought your cheese; or if you are the manufacturer, the name of your farm/company: _____
6. Date of purchase, or the manufacturer date: _____
7. US state (or country if outside of US) where manufactured: _____
8. If manufactured in NC, what region (i.e. Mountains, Piedmont, or Coastal Plain) is manufacturer located: _____
9. My cheese is made from pasteurized/ unpasteurized milk. (Check one option)
10. Is a starter culture added at the start of the fermentation process? Yes No

If yes, please tell us the bacterium/bacteria used: _____