

Dear SCA Members,

The SCA Board recently sent a letter to the University of Pennsylvania requesting information pertaining to MPSIIIB testing. This request was prompted by claims circulating on social media. The University of Pennsylvania responded with the following information:

1. The suspension of testing by UPenn was only for a brief period of time due to holidays, they have now resumed testing both blood and saliva.
2. To the best of their knowledge, they are not aware of any recent discrepancies with the MPSIIIB testing.
3. Several years ago they found that on rare occasions their previous testing method could cause an allelic dropout issue. The current testing method does not appear to have that issue.
4. They take all potential discrepancies seriously and follow up as best as possible.
5. There is no difference between cheek swabs and blood samples other than the chances of sample mix up or mislabeling by the owner which would be expected to be higher in cheek swabs.
6. They reiterated they recommend testing any breeding Schipperkes or at least until two prior generations tested free of carriers.

The SCA Board of Directors hopes the above information clears up any concerns that you may have had.

Kathy Navarrete
SCA President