

Preparing Dead Red Squirrels for Postage

Pack the body in **plenty of absorbent material** such as kitchen roll, and seal in **three tightly closed plastic bags**. Place the wrapped squirrel in a **rigid box** e.g. a shoe box, plastic tub or whisky bottle tube, and seal securely. Parcel this in brown paper or cardboard.

- You must label the parcel "PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMEN – FRAGILE. HANDLE WITH CARE" and write the sender's address on the parcel too.
- Send by first class post or guaranteed next day delivery, to the address below.
- Enclose the attached form with the body providing your details (and the finders details if different) and detailed information on when/where the squirrel was found.
- Please do not post on a Friday as the laboratory may be closed over the weekend. If posting on Thursday please send first class.
- Wash your hands after dealing with any squirrel carcasses and disinfect any surfaces or materials used.

Please pack properly – the Post Office may refuse to deliver dirty or smelly packages. Please ensure the package is posted to arrive on a weekday.

Send the package to:

Paul Duff
Veterinary Laboratories Agency
Merrythought
Calthwaite, Penrith
Cumbria, CA11 9RR

Please complete and enclose the following form with the packaged red squirrel:

Date squirrel was found: _____

Location found (include 6 figure grid reference if possible): _____

Any indications of cause of death: _____

Any additional information: _____

Senders Name, Organisation & Address (including post code): _____

Senders telephone number: _____ email: _____