

The Pizzle sticks is a safe and effective device for testing bulls for *Tritrichomonas foetus*. The corrugated surface allows you to come in contact with a larger surface area of the epithelium of the penis and prepuce increasing your chances of picking up the organism that lives there.

The Pizzle stick is introduced into the preputial opening avoiding any preputial hairs covered in organic matter advancing the stick to just cranial to the preputial fornix. The stick is then used to scrape against the penile and preputial epithelium, with or without concurrent aspiration with an attached syringe, to collect smegma on to the stick. Minimal searching motions have to be made with the Pizzle Stick due to the large surface collection area and the corrugated design allowing more material to be picked up over a larger area. Following removal from the preputial opening the collection end is then inserted into the collection media where it can be swirled in the media dislodging smegma and epithelial debris collected.

The reduction in searching motions and larger surface area reduces the opportunity for iatrogenic trauma to occur from repeated scrapings in one concentrated area. Bulls resist less and are quieter in the chute as compared to the vigorous use of a mare insemination pipette.

The Pizzle stick is also built with a blunt tip to the stick that helps reduce the chances of iatrogenic trauma if a bull suddenly moves or lunges during the process helping reduce the number of retropreputial abscesses that are contributed to iatrogenic trauma following *Tritrichomonas foetus* testing.