

Eimeria detection methods in field mice

Summary of hierarchical approach for infection status and species assignment

| Detection Method ¹ | Variable Name | Purpose | Priority | Sample Size (n/total) | Success Rate |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--|----------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Caecal qPCR + melting curve | MC.Eimeria | Infection detection (presence/absence) | Primary | 185/336 | 55.1% |
| Caecal qPCR + melting curve | eimeriaSpecies | Species identification | Primary | 169/336 | 50.3% |
| Amplicon sequencing ² | amplicon_species | Backup species identification | Backup | 134/336 | 39.9% |

¹ Primary method: Caecal tissue qPCR with melting curve analysis for both detection and species ID

² Backup method: Used only when qPCR species identification failed