

### **IBERIAN LYNX FECAL COLLECTION PROTOCOL**

- Collect a fecal sample (5-10 cm of fecal material is plenty) from each lynx daily (or as often as they defecate, which perhaps will not be daily).
- If possible, brush any litter off the sample.
- Place each sample in an individual zip lock plastic bag and label with the cat's name, studbook number or identification number and the date of collection in permanent ink (a Sharpie pen can be provided).
- If the animal is paired with another lynx, one of the lynx should be given food-coloring dye (provided if needed) daily to distinguish between the samples. The dye provided is very concentrated so only one drop needs to be mixed into a meatball or similar vehicle.
- Each sample should be frozen (-20°C) as soon as possible after collection and stored frozen until shipped or assayed.
- For this species, we are recommending daily fecal collections for every individual (female and male) throughout the year.