

Plasma evaluation

By Susan Mikota DVM
Elephant Care International

1. Evaluate color and transparency:
 - a) Clear and colorless: normal
 - b) Pink to red and clear: hemoglobinemia
 - c) yellow: icteric
 - d) White to pink and opaque: lipemic
2. Look at the buffy coat the layer between the RBCs and the plasma and estimate the WBC.
3. Examine the plasma above the buffy coat for microfilaria.
4. Measure the total protein using the refractometer (see next section)
5. Record results.

