

Bacterial Culture of Colostrum and Waste Milk

Sampling Instructions

03-12-09

- Producers should wear disposable gloves to prevent contamination of the waste milk or colostrum with bacteria.
- Producers should plan on collecting 5 samples.
- Colostrum should be collected just before it is fed to newborn calves.
- Producers should collect the following 5 waste milk samples.
Sample 1: Immediately before pasteurization
Sample 2: Immediately post-pasteurization
Sample 3: The first calf fed
Sample 4: The middle calf fed
Sample 5: The last calf fed
- Colostrum or waste milk samples should be collected in a leak proof vial. Vials (2 oz translucent lock-top) can be purchased from Nelson Jameson (1-800-826-8302). The catalog number is 170-3206.
- Fill the leak proof vial ½ full with milk or colostrum.
- Label the vial. Each vial should have the date of collection and the sample identity written on it.
- Samples should be placed in a household freezer **immediately** after collection. Samples can remain in the freezer for up to 30 days before submission to the laboratory.

Shipping Requirements

- Veterinarians should completely fill out the WVDL General Submission Form. An electronic copy is available at www.wisc.edu. Click on the forms link to download the submission form.
- Send the samples to **WVDL-Barron** by the most expeditious means. The laboratory should receive the samples within 24-36 hours.
- Package the samples with a sufficient number of ice packs to ensure they remain frozen during shipment. Warm samples will be rejected.
- Clients should schedule shipments to avoid weekend and holiday delivery of samples to the laboratory.