



Wisconsin Veterinary
Diagnostic Laboratory
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Bovine Environmental Sampling Instructions for *Salmonella* spp.

WVDL *Salmonella* Environmental Monitoring Sampling Kit includes:

- One-Styrofoam cooler in a cardboard box
- One-Styrofoam holder for 15 mL conical tubes
- Sterile Buffered Peptone Water (BPW): 3 mL in 15 mL conical tubes with screw-top lid
n = 12
- Sterile Fisherbrand®: polyester-tipped applicator sticks: (six-inch length-2 per pack)
n = 12
- One-8-ounce ThermoSafe®-PolarPack®
- Medium-sized-ziploc® bag
n = 2
- One-Insulated Shipping Envelope
- WVDL General Submission Form
n = 2
- UPS-Next Day Air Return Shipping Label

Upon Arrival

Upon **receipt** of the sampling kit, **place** the 8-ounce ThermoSafe®-PolarPack® in a **household freezer**. The ice-pack must be completely frozen before the environmental sampling is done.

Sampling Locations

The following areas are considered high risk and are potential sample sites: close-up pen floor, close-up pen feed bunk, close-up pen waterers (inside wall of waterer), calving pen floor, calving pen waterer, calving pen feed bunk, calf transporter(s), warming box, floor in the calf feed mixing room, alleyways in the calf barn, floors and walls of the calf pens and some of the calf feeding equipment, which includes the colostrum collection equipment.

Please contact us if more than 12 sites will be sampled to include more supplies in the kit.

Sampling Instructions

Open the applicator stick package and wet the tips of both of the six-inch polyester swabs in the BPW taking care **not to touch the tips of the polyester swabs with your fingers**. Gently swab a 2-inch x 2-inch square area while rotating both swabs simultaneously. Place both polyester swabs in the 15 mL conical tube. Repeat this process 2-3 times until the BPW is noticeably discolored with organic material. After swabbing is complete snap off 1-2 inches of the plastic shaft on both swabs so they will fit into the 15 mL conical tubes. Screw the lid tightly



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on the tube and legibly write the sampling location on the side of the tube. For example, calf barn: east alleyway floor. Repeat the process over and over again with a different pair of six-inch polyester swabs and a 15 mL conical tube that contains BPW until the environmental sampling is completed.

Shipping Instructions

- Completely fill out the WVDL General Submission Form making sure that the locations listed on the 15 mL conical tubes **matches** the locations listed on the WVDL submission form.
- Make sure the position number on the submission form matches the position number on the 15 mL conical tube. For example, if the calf pen floor is the fifth environmental sample listed on the WVDL General Submission Form then the conical tube that contains the calf pen floor sample should be marked with position # 5 as well.
- Specimen type: **Environmental Swabs in BPW**
- Test(s) requested: **Salmonella PCR panel**
- Place the WVDL General Submission Form in the medium-sized Ziploc bag and then place the Ziploc-bag inside the 2nd medium-sized Ziploc bag
- Double-check that the lids of each 15 mL conical tube is screwed on tight and place the tubes in the insulated shipping envelope along with the **frozen** 8-ounce polar pack
- Place the WVDL General Submission Form in the insulated shipping envelope with the 15mL conical tubes and the 8-ounce polar pack
- Seal the insulated shipping envelope closed. Make sure the insulated shipping envelope is completely sealed shut
- Place the UPS-Next Day Air Return Label on the outside of the insulated shipping envelope
- Drop-off the insulated shipping envelope at any UPS-store location in the continental United States or request that UPS pick up at your location

For more information about *Salmonella* testing options and turnaround time please contact the WVDL at (608) 262-5432 or Salmonella@wvdl.wisc.edu and use our website at wvdl.wisc.edu.