Bacterial Culture of Colostrum, Calf Milk Replacer (CMR) and Waste Milk Sampling Instructions

- Producers should wear disposable gloves to prevent contamination of the waste milk, CMR or colostrum with bacteria.
- Producers should plan on collecting 5 samples of pasteurized waste milk.
  - 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
- Producers should plan on collecting 3 samples of reconstituted CMR.
  - Sample 1: The first calf fed
  - Sample 2: The middle calf fed
  - Sample 3: The last calf fed
- Colostrum should be collected just before it is fed to newborn calves.
- Colostrum, reconstituted CMR or waste milk samples should be collected in a leak proof vial. Vials (2 oz translucent locktop) 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, reconstituted CMR 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 Submission Form. An electronic copy is available at [www.wvdl.wisc.edu](http://www.wvdl.wisc.edu). Click on the forms link to download the submission form. Be sure to check the Aerobic/Coliform/E. coli count test box and indicate the appropriate sample type (colostrum, CMR or waste milk) as this determines the dilution set up.
- Package the samples with a sufficient number of ice packs to ensure they remain frozen during shipment. Warm samples will be rejected.
- Send the samples to the WVDL Barron Lab by the most expeditious means. The laboratory should receive the samples within 24-36 hours.
- Clients should schedule shipments to avoid weekend and holiday delivery of samples to the laboratory.