

Operating Instructions for Andersen N6 Single Stage Air Sampler



A detailed User's Manual can be found at <https://tools.thermofisher.com/content/sfs/manuals/EPM-manual-SingleStage.pdf>

The sampler-pump assembly has been calibrated in-line to 1 ACFM (28.3L/min) at ambient temperature and pressure levels. The unit should be re-calibrated on site if non-standard temperature and pressure are encountered.

Procedure:

1. Connect the flexible tubing from the pump to the male connector on the sampler.
2. Clean hands with sterile gauze soaked with isopropyl alcohol or use an isopropyl alcohol pad.
 - a. Use aseptic technique throughout the collection process.
3. Wipe all surfaces of the sampler (inlet cone, jet classification stage, and base plate) with isopropyl alcohol and allow to dry.
 - a. Inlet Cone – cone shaped piece with 25-26mm I.D. hole
 - b. Jet Classification Stage – round piece with 400 pinpoint holes
 - c. Base Plate – the round piece with 3 raised prongs
4. With the sampler sanitized and the inlet cone and jet classification stage removed, place an agar plate with its lid removed so the plate rests on the three raised metal pins.
 - a. All agar plates should be at room temperature prior to use.
 - b. Do not touch agar surface.
5. Immediately cover the plate with the jet classification stage and inlet cone.
6. Secure the device with the three spring clamps and visually check to ensure a good seal.
7. Set an external timer for the desired sampling time and turn on the vacuum pump.
8. After sampling, turn off the pump, unhook the three spring clamps and remove the agar plate.
 - a. Quickly replace the agar plate lid and label the top of the plate (the side lacking agar) with a water-resistant marker. Do not use masking tape for the label.
 - b. Seal the perimeter of the plate with electrical tape.
9. Repeat procedure beginning at step 2 for additional samples.
 - a. Collect a representative outdoor sample to provide a reference for determining whether certain fungi are being amplified in the indoor environment.
 - b. Collect an indoor control sample from an unaffected area.
 - c. Submit a blank, unexposed agar plate with each sampling event to serve as a negative control.
10. Reassemble the sampler prior to returning it.

Shipping:

1. Clearly label each sample with a Sample Number and complete the Chain of Custody (COC).
2. Place the plates in a Ziploc bag in a box with sufficient packing material to prevent damage and ship to the laboratory with the completed COC form.
3. Ship samples Monday through Friday.