

Mycobacteria Water Collection/Shipping Guidelines



Sample: Potable and non-potable water collected in sterile bottles with sodium thiosulfate neutralizer.

Method: Sample concentration, decontamination, and plating to selective media.

Collection: Free sterile screw-cap bottles with sodium thiosulfate are available from U.S. Micro-Solutions, call 724-853-4047.

For collection of water from heater/cooler units, see Heater/Cooler Water Culture Guidelines.

Potable Water:

1. Turn on hot water and immediately collect 100 mL in a sterile plastic bottle with sodium thiosulfate.
2. Fasten lid tightly and invert bottle to mix.
3. Keep sample cool ($\leq 17^{\circ}\text{C}$) prior to shipping.

Nonpotable Water:

1. Collect 100 mL in a sterile plastic bottle with sodium thiosulfate.
2. Fasten lid tightly and invert bottle to mix.
3. Keep sample cool ($\leq 17^{\circ}\text{C}$) prior to shipping.

Shipping:

1. Clearly label each sample with a Sample Number and complete the Chain of Custody (COC).
2. Place samples in Ziploc bags and pack in a box with an insulated foam liner and ice pack.
3. Insert the completed COC form into a plastic sleeve or Ziploc bag and place in box.
4. Ship samples Monday through Friday for receipt within 24 hours of collection.
 - ▲ *If necessary, samples may be refrigerated (4-8°C) overnight prior to shipping.*