

Bulk Sample Collection/Shipping Guidelines



Sample: Representative pieces of drywall, ceiling tile, insulation, carpet, padding, filters, dirt, etc.

Method: Quantitative culture on appropriate media for bacteria and/or fungi. The bacterial and fungal concentrations are expressed as colony forming units per gram of material (CFU/g). Direct microscopic exam can also be performed.

Collection:

1. Wearing gloves, remove a representative piece/portion of the sample. Typically a 1-2 inch square piece is sufficient.
 - ▲ *Avoid sending large bulks (ceiling tile, wall board, filters).*
 - ▲ *Extremely small samples will be processed for direct microscopic exam only.*
 - ▲ *Apply strict aseptic technique when collecting and submitting samples for culture.*
2. Record the unit area sampled. If there is no specific sample area, please mark "NA."

Shipping:

1. Clearly label each sample with a Sample Number and complete the Chain of Custody (COC).
2. Place sample in a Ziploc bag in a box with sufficient packing material to prevent damage along with the completed COC form.
3. Ship samples overnight at ambient temperature Monday through Friday for receipt within 24 hours of collection. Shipments on Fridays must be sent via Priority Overnight Saturday Delivery.