

Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results

Receipt and Storage

- On receipt of the test material, record the date and store refrigerated at 2-8°C until ready to test.
- The test material should be analysed in accordance with the deadlines shown on the website: <https://www.lgcpt.com/portal>

Microbiology

Sample Details

- Test materials represent a 'real' sample, which may or may not contain the target organism(s), at a range of inoculum levels. Background flora may also be present.
- Test materials are provided in a vial format with a pre-weighed quantity of matrix, either powder (10g), liquid (10ml) or lotion (10g).

Sample preparation

1. Prepare diluent as stipulated by your test method in the volume appropriate for the sample size
2. From this volume take 10ml and add it to the vial after aseptically removing cap and rubber stopper.
3. Replace the vial stopper and shake to dissolve.
4. Leave to stand at room temperature for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.
5. Resuscitate the matrix with the remaining amount of diluent prepared in Step 1.
6. Add the resuscitated vial contents prepared in Step 2 to the matrix preparation from Step 5, back-washing two or three times to ensure all the freeze-dried test material is recovered from the vial.

For example:

- If using a 1:10 dilution, prepare 90ml of your routine diluent.
- Add 10ml of this diluent to the vial and leave for 60-90 minutes to resuscitate.
- Add the remaining 80ml of diluent to the sterile matrix and add the 10ml contents of the vial.

Testing

- Immediately before testing, mix the resuscitated sample thoroughly and then test for the target organism(s) using your routine laboratory methods.
- Please ensure you take into account your initial 1/10 dilution when calculating your final value
- If you normally only perform presence/absence tests rather than enumeration tests, please report your results as either > or < values depending upon the limit of detection for the method used.

Precautions

- Test materials contain viable micro-organisms and are supplied on the understanding that the purchaser has suitably competent and qualified personnel to handle them safely. Test materials must only be opened in a laboratory by qualified personnel.
- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for information on the safe handling and disposal of the test materials.

Chemistry

- Analyse the sample as received, without de-fatting, by your routine laboratory methods.
- Report results for the appropriate analytes, following the instructions below.

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Recording Results

- All results should be submitted using PORTAL
- Please go to <https://www.lgcpt.com/portal>
- Login using your Lab ID, username and password.

- A PORTAL user guide can be downloaded from the help section.

If you need any help at all please do not hesitate to contact our support team using the details below or your local LGC representative.

Tel: +44(0)161 762 2500

Email: support@lgcpt.com