

COLLECTING A SPRAY WATER SAMPLE

Proper sample collection and handling is the first key step to a quality spray water analysis. Following the steps below will help ensure a quality sample is collected.

1. Use a clean and sterile plastic bottle that holds at least 500 ml/cc with a sealable lid. Additional water quality testing kits or bottles can be obtained from the lab. **NO GLASS BOTTLES!**
2. Keep the lid on the bottle until you are ready to take the sample.
3. To reflect the water quality at the sprayer or nurse tank, collect the sample from the final outlet of the plumbing. Plumbing systems can impact the contents of the spray water. To identify the impact from plumbing systems, collect the samples from as close to the water source as possible, as well as from the final outlet.
4. Allow the water source to flow freely for several minutes before collecting the water sample. This will purge static water from the system. If possible collect the sample midway through the filling of a sprayer or nurse tank.
5. Rinse the bottle and lid in the water to be tested 3 to 5 times before collecting the sample.
6. Fill the bottle completely to remove head space. The bottle can be "squeezed" slightly after filling to remove any remaining head space. Be sure that the lid is on the bottle tightly to avoid leaking. Bottles can be sealed with black electrical tape or a similar tape for an added level of leak protection.
7. Use a permanent marker to clearly label the bottle with your name and the appropriate sample ID.
8. After closing the bottle, place in a sealable plastic bag, before placing the sample into the shipping box. This avoids losing the sample and getting the submittal form wet in the event of a leak.
9. If possible, collect and ship sample(s) the same day. If possible ship the samples the first of the week to avoid samples sitting in a shipping warehouse over a weekend.

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