

The information in this guideline is provided as a resource to enable development of a sampling plan for your operation prior to sampling and sending your samples to PrimusLabs for analysis. However, this is not a complete procedure, and is based on the requirements of the Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods (CMMEF) 3.71, 4th edition.

If interested in additional resources or materials, please contact a microbiologist at microbiologists@primuslabs.com.

Comments:

- Keep Petri dishes (plates) refrigerated (2-8°C) for up to 11 days before use; deliver plates to the laboratory as soon as possible after sampling.
- Label plate bottoms (the half containing the agar) with permanent marker **before** use.
- Do not open plates until ready to begin sampling.
- When possible, transport samples with plate bottoms on top (as seen stacked in image on the right).



Supplies:

Timer	Cooler with Gel Ice Packs/Blue Ice
Air-testing Plates	Permanent Marker

Customers can contact us for no-charge sampling supplies at SupplyRequest@PrimusLabs.com

PROCEDURE

Preparation

1. With a permanent marker, record the following information on bottom of an unopened plate – date, sample location and sample time.
2. Proceed to sample area.

Collecting Air Samples

3. In each area where air testing is desired, remove the plate’s lid and set the plate agar side up for 15 minutes.
4. After 15 minutes, return the lid to the plate.
5. Once all samples have been collected, prepare them for transport to PrimusLabs.

Transportation to the Laboratory

6. Place samples in their original holding bag and then into the cooler with a sufficient amount of gel ice packs to maintain the “as sampled” condition during transport to the laboratory. In order to avoid freezing during transport, do not pack sample bag directly on the ice packs.
7. Transport or ship the samples to the laboratory as soon as possible. Please contact the receiving laboratory with any questions or concerns.

The analytical results for any tested samples are representative only of the actual sample sent to PrimusLabs.com (please see the Disclaimer of Warranties provided with the final approved results or on our web site – www.primuslabs.com)