

WATER, Test Code 1052-Direct Microscopic Examination

A direct exam on a water sample can identify large bacterial activity & fungal growth occurring in the water sample. This is a qualitative test; results will be given as occasional, few, moderate or numerous organisms seen.

1. Obtain a sterile container from Aerobiology.
2. Collect a 100ml of water from the tap or reservoir in the sterile container making sure the inside of the container is not contaminated by the collector.
3. Keep the water in a cooler and an ice pack for transportation to the laboratory.
4. The water sample **must** reach the laboratory within 24 hours of collection or the sample will be deemed invalid.

References:

Dillon, H. Kenneth, L. Hung, J. Miller, Field Guide for the Determination of Biological Contaminants in Environmental Samples., 6.2.4: 134-135 (2005).

Eaton, Andrew D., Lenore S. Clesceri, Eugene W. Rice, Arnold E. Greenberg, Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater., 9-21 (2005).