

Specimen Collection and Submission Instructions

Escherichia coli O157:H7 (Environmental) (Version 1)

Page 1 of 2

Specimen Type	Collection Time	Collection Frequency	Collection Procedures	Transport Media	Shipping & Handling (S&H)**
Food	ASAP	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If possible send in original packaging or container. • Sterile/Aseptic technique is necessary for handling and packaging food items. • Items must be individually bagged in sterile, leak-proof containers. • Amount: 50-100 grams (1.7-3.5 ounces) of specimen is required. 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport device: Sterile, leak-proof bag or container. • Rejection Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Testing not approved by CDE. ○ Leaking or inappropriately packaged specimen. ○ Improper storage or shipping conditions. • Transport: See storage requirements. • Storage: Keep refrigerated foods at 0°-4°C. Frozen foods should be kept frozen. Dry/canned goods may be stored at room temperature.
Environmental Swab	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sterile/Aseptic technique is necessary for handling and packaging swabs. • Swabs must be individually bagged in sterile, leak-proof containers. 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport device: Sterile screw top container. • Rejection Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Testing not approved by CDE. ○ Leaking or inappropriately packaged specimen. ○ Improper storage or shipping conditions. • Transport: Cold (Not frozen). • Storage: Refrigerate.

General Rejection Criteria (for additional details, see S&H)

- Unaccepted specimen type.
- Leaky specimen.
- Failure to follow specific S&H requirements.

Collection kit availability

Not available.

Comments

- If necessary, please contact laboratory before collection or shipping for additional assistance.
- For Environmental Swabs, commercial swab/sponge collection kits may be acceptable. Please call lab before collection to verify.