



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH & WELFARE**

Test Title	<b><i>Escherichia coli (Non-Clinical Foodborne)</i></b>
<b>Sample Requirements</b>	1. Specimen type: See Table 1 below for full listing of specimen types, requirements, special instructions and rejection criteria.
<b>Sampling Materials</b>	1. Sample container: Clean, sterile, leak-proof container. See Table 1 below for specific sample types. 2. If possible submit food in its original container.
<b>Procedural Notes</b>	1. <a href="#">Biological Threat Food/Environmental Test Request Form</a> for food, water or environmental samples 2. IBL only accepts environmental samples to be tested for foodborne agents from local, regional, state or federal agencies. Private individuals are directed to contact their local health department for more information. 3. For all samples suspected of containing a biological threat agent contact the IBL Emergency Preparedness Section <u>before</u> sample collection and/or submission. TEL: 208-334-2235 4. See Table 1 below for sample specific procedural notes.
<b>Shipping Instructions</b>	1. Temperature/preservative instructions: a. Samples should be stored and transported at refrigerator temperatures (2-8°C). If sample is frozen when collected then keep frozen and submit on frozen ice packs. Do not re-freeze or freeze a sample that is thawed. 2. Packaging: a. Package sample in a leak-proof container for transport as per DOT or other shipping regulations such as IATA. 3. Ship to: Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <b>ATTN: LRN-B Laboratory</b> 2220 Old Penitentiary Rd Boise, ID 83712
<b>Reporting and Turnaround Time (TAT)</b>	1. TAT: 2-10 business days

Table 1. *Escherichia coli* Sampling Guidelines

Sample type	Sampling materials	Sample collection	Procedural notes	Sample rejection criteria
Food (non-produce)	Clean, sterile, leak-proof container or sampling bag (e.g., "Whirl-Pak")	Collect at least 25 g.		Unlabeled or improperly packaged specimens that are leaking or otherwise compromised
Juice, milk, beverages, and water	Clean, sterile, leak-proof container	Collect at least 125 mL.		
Produce	Clean, sterile, leak-proof container or sampling bag (e.g., "Whirl-Pak")	Collect at least 200 g.		
Swabs	Sterile swab or other sterile surface sampling device; sterile, leak-proof container	Sample an area approximately 100 cm <sup>2</sup> .	If disinfectants are present on area to be sampled then use an appropriate neutralizer (e.g., DE broth).	
Waterborne outbreaks	Contact Idaho Bureau of Laboratories <u>before</u> sample collection or submission.			