

Water line sampling protocol

1. Close the water line water supply valve.
2. Detach the flexible hose from the end of the water line and allow the water to drain completely.
3. Open an alcohol swab and clean the provide forceps thoroughly. Let dry.
4. Open a second alcohol swab and then clean the outside and edges of the water line thoroughly.
5. While holding the forceps (be careful not to touch anything), open the sterile container holding the sponge used for swabbing.
6. Insert the forceps into the sterile container, grab the sponge in its center and remove the excess liquid from the sponge by pressing it against the wall of the sterile container.
7. Insert the sponge 8 cm (3 ") into the water line (up to the first lines on the provided forceps). Make sure you hold the forceps firmly so as not to lose the sponge in the water line.
8. Twist the sponge several times, rubbing the inner wall vigorously, then remove it from the water line. Sample as much of the surface as possible. Be careful that the sponge does not touch anything else.
9. Return the sponge to the sterile container, making sure to place it in the transport medium. Identify the container.
10. When all the samples have been collected, place the containers in the foam box containing a frozen Ice-pack, complete the submission form and then send us the samples as quickly as possible (maximum delay of 24 hours) to the following address:

**Chaire en recherche avicole
Faculté de médecine vétérinaire
3200 rue Sicotte (porte 24) Laboratoire 3931
St-Hyacinthe, QC
J2S 2M2**

11. Samples received from Monday to Wednesday will be analyzed upon arrival at the laboratory. However, for samples received on Thursday and Friday total aerobic counts cannot be performed and samples will be processed the following week.

To avoid additional charges, keep the forceps and pencil for future use