

Sampling Collection Procedures for FastEST®

FastEST provides rapid and accurate analysis of aquatic herbicide concentrations in water. FastEST assay services are available for monitoring the following SePRO aquatic products: Sonar®, Renovate® 3, Renovate® OTF, Renovate® MAX G, Galleon® SC, Sculpin® G, Captain®, K-Tea®, SeClear, Komeen®, Nautique®, Clearcast®, Habitat®, Oasis®, ProcellaCOR®, and Stingray®. It is extremely important to maintain a contamination free environment during water sample collection. **Do not** collect water samples from a boat that was used to apply the SePRO aquatic product you are monitoring. All equipment and clothes used during sampling should be completely free of the aquatic herbicide.

Follow these collection steps in sequence:

1. **Complete FastEST Chain of Custody (COC) and enclose with sample(s). This is included with sampling bottles, or may be downloaded from the SePRO web site. Appropriate billing information MUST be completed before analysis.**
2. Draw a map, or attach a map, of the water body and location of each water collection on accompanying Chain of Custody. Number each sample location and transfer to page one of the Chain of Custody.
3. Complete accompanying sample water bottle labels and affix labels to sample bottles. Number each sample water bottle with corresponding sample location number from COC form. Include date and name of water body on label.
4. At the collection site, remove the bottle cap from the designated bottle, triple rinse the bottle with water from this site and submerge the bottle upside down until elbow deep. Should your program require sampling at depth, utilize the proper device to collect water from the target depth or depths.
5. Turn the bottle upright and allow filling as you slowly bring the bottle toward the surface.
6. When the bottle is full, yet still underwater at the targeted collection depth; screw the cap back on the bottle (For ProcellaCOR FastEST use the clear glass vial to collect sample, contents of the clear vial should be transferred to the amber glass vial until completely filled to preserve sample. Place amber vial in bubble wrap sleeve to protect glass vial during shipping). It is recommended to secure cap with tape to prevent loosening during shipment.
7. Place the sample bottle(s) in a cooler and close the lid to prevent exposure to sunlight.
8. Refrigerate samples if they will not be shipped within 24-hours of collection to keep samples cool until shipment. **Do not ship samples collected on a Friday**, refrigerate and ship Monday.
9. **Do not** ship samples in loose ice.
10. We request that samples are overnighted and ice packs are used when outdoor temperatures reach 90 plus degrees. **Shipping via FedEx is recommended.**
Note: Shipments by US mail typically require additional time in transit to the SRTC.
11. Ship samples to: **SePRO Research & Technology Campus**
16013 Watson Seed Farm Road
Whitakers, NC 27891-9114
E-mail: srtclab@sepro.com
Tel: (252) 437-3282

12. If you have questions pertaining to sample collection, please contact your SePRO Technical Specialist. If you need to order FastEST sample bottles, please contact the SRTC at **(252) 437-3282** or by e-mail, srtclab@sepro.com. COC forms are available on our web site www.sepro.com/lab.

FAQs

Q. Why ship Chain of Custody (COC) in a plastic bag?

A. When the Chain of Custody is not protected from moisture, it may become wet and thus very difficult to read...if we can't read or salvage the COC, the sample cannot be analysed until we establish where the sample originated. This may result in later turnaround than our 48-hour policy for water analysis.

Q. Why ship overnight?

A. Shipping overnight ensures that your water sample is not left in an environment (such as the back of a delivery truck or warehouse) in which external factors may affect sample integrity.

Q. Why ship samples on ice?

A. We know that water samples maintain their integrity if kept on ice or in a cold environment; we do not know the same about samples that arrive warm or hot, this leaves the potential for skewed results.

Q. Why send water samples in an opaque Nalgene® bottle?

A. Many of the herbicides we test for are broken down by photolysis (absorption of light), so translucent bottles may promote additional breakdown before analysis is complete.

Q. Why send ProcellaCOR water samples in glass amber vial with PTFE lid?

A. ProcellaCOR has tendency to adhere to plastic, interfering with the analysis.