

Appendix **A**

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND PURCHASING

- Equipment Maintenance
- Using A Fixed Volume Pipettor With Sterile Tips
- 3M Petrifilm™ Storage
- Disposal Technique
- Purchasing Information

Equipment Maintenance

It is important when working with bacteria to practice sterile techniques to avoid contamination of samples. Store pipette tips in a sterile container. Be sure to use a new sterile pipette tip when plating from different water samples. Make sure the cooler that holds ice is washed with a 10 % bleach solution before and after every use. Be sure to wash hands thoroughly with soap before and after plating, and always use latex or vinyl gloves when handling equipment.

Using a Fixed-Volume Pipettor with Sterile Tips

Keep tips in a sterile container before using.

Step 1: Add tip to pipettor.

Step 2: Depress the “plunger” to the first stage. Dip the tip in the water sample.

Step 3: Release the “plunger” slowly to reach the ready position. The water sample will be filled in the tip. Make sure there are no air bubbles.

Step 4: Depress the “plunger” gently to the first stage. Solution will be dispensed but a small amount of liquid will be left in the tip.

Step 5: After a pause, continue to depress the “plunger” to the second stage. The small amount of liquid left in the tip is also dispensed.

Step 6: Release the “plunger” to reach the ready position.

*Note: You should also remember to agitate your water sample before drawing a sample with a pipette.

3M™ Petrifilm™ Storage

Store un-opened Petrifilm™ plate pouches in the refrigerator. Once pouches have been opened, avoid any moisture that may come into contact with the plates. Store the opened Petrifilm™ plate pouches in a re-sealable plastic bag and place them in the FREEZER. Place a weight down on the top of the bag to keep the plates lying flat. Exposure of Petrifilm™ plates to temperatures greater than 25°C (77°F), and/or humidity greater or equal to 50% relative humidity can affect the performance of the plates. Opened pouches that have been stored properly this way will last until the EXPIRATION DATE located on the back of the pouch (shown in the image below). Discard any plates that have discoloration.

*NOTE: Before plating your sample, remember to remove the number of plates you will use from the freezer and allow to thaw. This will take about 10 to 15 minutes.

*Expiration date
(Sept. 2014)*



Disposal Technique

After counting the bacterial colonies, plates need to be disinfected before disposal. Any of the following disinfectants may be used:

- A 10% bleach solution
- Lysol spray
- Rubbing Alcohol or ethanol

Put on gloves and add any of the mentioned disinfectants to each plate. When working with bleach, be sure not to get any of the solution onto skin or clothes. Place the plates in a re-sealable plastic bag. Allow the contents to mix for 5 minutes. Finally, dispose of the bag in the trash.

Purchasing Information

PETRIFILM™ PLATES

3M Food Safety

3M Center Bldg. 275-5W-05
 St. Paul, MN USA 35022-5649
 Phone: 1-800-328-1671
http://solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/Microbiology/FoodSafety/



To view product online and to learn more about the product, please visit:
http://solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/Microbiology/FoodSafety/product-information/product-catalog/

Product	Description	Catalog #	Price
3M™ Petrifilm™ E. coli/Coliform Count Plates 6404	50 plates/box, E. coli Count Plates (EC) for Escherichia coli and coliform enumeration.	6404	\$82*
3M™ Petrifilm™ E. coli/Coliform Count Plates 6414	500 plates/case, E. coli Count Plates (EC) for Escherichia coli and coliform enumeration.	6414	\$569

*Minimum order of \$200. If you need assistance, please contact the State Office 404-657-5947.

Nelson-Jameson

2400 E. 5th St.
 Marshfield, WI 5449
 715-387-1151
 Phone: 1-800-826-8302
 SKU: 4603404

To view product online and to learn more about the product, please visit:
<http://nelsonjameson.com/3M-Petrifilm-E-coli-Coliform-Count-Plates-p2028.html>

*No minimum order

INCUBATOR

G.Q.F. Manufacturing Company

(912) 236-0651 www.gqfmfg.com
 Genesis Hova-Bator: \$134.95 (product # 1588)
 Hova-Bator Circulated Air Picture Window: \$102.90
 (product #1583)
 Thermal Air Hova-Bator: \$55.98 (product # 1602N)



FIXED-VOLUME PIPETTES & STERILE TIPS

Cole-Parmer

1-800-323-4340 www.coleparmer.com

Fixed-volume Pipette 1000uL: \$85.00 (model # EW21600-06)

Sterile tips: 1000/pk tips for \$42.00 (product # EX25711-50)



VWR.com

1-800-932-5000 us.vwr.com

Lil'pet Mini-Pipettor, 1000µL: \$22.40 (product # 470149-048)

Sterile tips: 1000/pk tips for \$42.00 (product # EX25711-50)

WHIRL-PAK®

Cole-Parmer

1-800-323-4340 www.coleparmer.com

Whirl-pak® sterile sampling bag with white labeling area,

18 oz capacity: Box of 500 for \$107.00 (product # EW-06499-80)



THERMOMETER

VWR.com

1-800-932-5000 us.vwr.com

VWR® Big-digit Thermometer with dual min/max: \$42.37

(product # 61161-324)



*NOTE: Prices are as of August 2013.