

# Bacteriology Sampling Protocol - AquaTechnics

**PURPOSE:** Collect samples for seawater, algal cultures or larvae/small seed suspended in seawater for bacteriological culture and analysis

## General Guidelines:

- Marine water samples are collected from field sites in pre-sterilized sample tubes and shipped to the AquaTechnics lab for analysis
- Collect samples on Monday, Tuesday or Friday. The same day of shipping.

**Supplies:** pre-sterilized screw cap sample tubes, foam shipping box, frozen gel pack, several sheets of newspaper, shipping tape, address label

## How to Collect Samples:

1. Samples are collected in pre-sterilized screw cap sample tubes (provided)
2. Set up foam shipping box with frozen gel pack. Add bunched up newspaper to box to protect samples from direct contact with frozen gel pack.
3. Label the sample tube with a waterproof label pen (sample #, time, location). Record this information on a paper log that will be included in the shipping box.
4. Follow sample collection method as described in the table (right) for specific sample type.
5. After collecting the sample, screw cap on firmly, wipe outside of tube dry and place in insulated shipping box.
6. Prepare box for shipping to this address:

AquaTechnics  
455 West Bell Street  
Sequim, WA 98382  
(Tel: 360-681-3122)

SAMPLE TYPE	SAMPLING METHOD
OPEN WATER	Immerse the sample tube about 6 in. (15 cm) below the water surface and allow to fill, avoid letting tube fill with water from the surface air interface
HATCHERY (PIPELINE)	Open sample port and allow it to flush for at least 15 seconds before filling sample tube
HATCHERY (ALGAL CULTURES)	Same as pipeline (above)
LARVAE/SEED	Larvae or seed can be suspended in seawater in sample tube

## Important Shipping Information:

Samples need to be shipped to the lab on the day of or day after sample collection using overnight courier service or hand delivery. The objective is to get the sample to the laboratory in less than 48 hours from sample collection. Hold sample in refrigerator if sample is to be shipped next day.

Shipping from anywhere in Western WA- UPS ground service is best if available. If out of WA, ship your samples via FedEx overnight the day or day after collection.

Please send a heads up email that you are shipping samples to: [ralph@aquatechnics.com](mailto:ralph@aquatechnics.com)

**Project Funding:** NOAA Saltonstall-Kennedy grant proposal no. 2004617.

**Contact:** For more information about this project, protocols, or how to request supplies contact Pacific Shellfish Institute (3/2018).



P: 360.754.2741  
[www.pacshell.org](http://www.pacshell.org)