

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES: SURFACE, HAND SWABS AND AIR SETTLE PLATES

Surface and hand swabs

Swabs are taken after the facility/hands are cleaned.

The swabbing will be done using sterile cotton swabs obtained from Wynland lab. If the surface to be swabbed is dry the cotton swab will be treated with Tween 80 solution. For moist surfaces a dry cotton swab will be sufficient.

Personnel taking the swabs should wash their hands.

A marker pen, lab request form and cooler box with ice bricks in should be available during sampling.

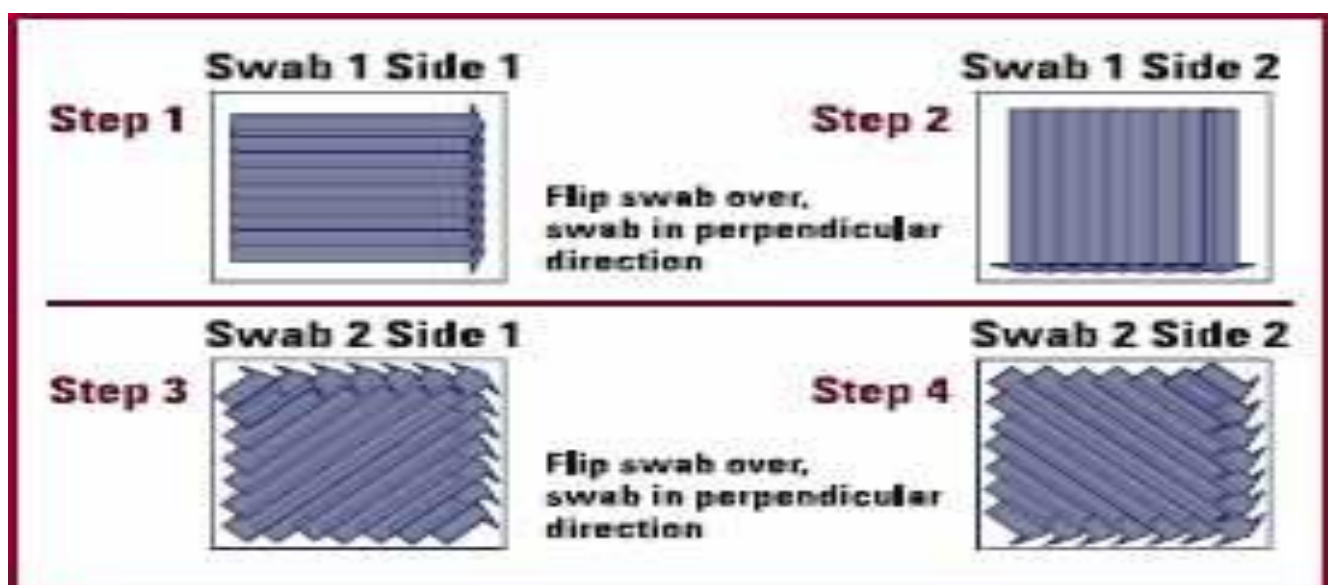
Surface Swabs:

Surface swabs includes: Surface, table swabs, equipment swabs and carcasses.

Remove the swab from the tube and swab a 10 x 10 cm surface as per described in the picture below: one side of the swab – left to right, turning the swab the other side – up and down with moderate pressure.

If combined swabs are taken the second swabs can be swabbed as per step 3 and 4.

Place the swab back in the tube, mark it and place it in the cooler box. Samples should be delivered to the lab on the same day with the lab request form.



Hand swabs:

Remove the treated cotton swab from the tube and swab the palm of the hand as in step 1 and 2 above. This also represent a 10 x 10 cm area. Roll the same swab in between the base of the fingers.

Place the swab back in the tube, mark it with the person's name and place it in the cooler box on ice.

Swab samples should be delivered to the lab on the same day with the lab request form.

Settle plates:

Settle plates is used to monitor the air in the facility. Prepoured plates are obtained from Wynland lab on special request the day before sampling.

A marker pen and lab request form should be available during sampling.

Place the plates open in the area to be measured – plates are left open for a predetermined exposure time. Following sampling, close the plates and mark clearly.

Plates should be delivered to the lab on the same day with the lab request form for incubation.

Reporting of results:

The results will include the following:

Clear description of the sample received, date received and date reported.

All swabs will be reported as: x cfu / cm²

Settle plates as: x cfu / plate

Where cfu = colony forming units.