Coliform Bacteria Testing Guide

Guide to coliform bacteria testing in farm water, from collecting a clean sample to reading the lab report and deciding what to do next. Work through the steps in order and keep notes on what you find along the way.

Farm / unit: _____ Date: _____ By: _____

1. Get sample bottles from an approved lab
2. Wash hands and avoid touching the bottle opening
3. Collect from a clean tap or sampling point
4. Label the bottle with source and date
5. Keep the sample cool as directed
6. Deliver to the lab on time
7. Read the report with a health adviser
8. Treat and retest if results call for it
9. File the report

YOUR NOTES

TIP Follow the lab's sampling instructions exactly, since a poor sample gives misleading results.

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