

**APPENDIX A****FOOD AND WATERBORNE ILLNESS INVESTIGATION EQUIPMENT**

Each county health department shall have a centrally located, readily accessible kit assembled with appropriate materials and equipment for investigating food and waterborne illness outbreaks. These kits should be prepared in advance and maintained in ready-to-use condition. Glass jars and sampling implements shall be kept sterile. It is recommended that an inventory be conducted at least twice a year, preferably quarterly. Missing materials are to be replaced and existing equipment should be resterilized. A smaller kit should also be prepared with a sampling of necessary equipment and be issued to an individual assigned to "on-call" duty. When performing sample collections, use sterile technique, complete identification and chain-of-evidence procedures. Subsequent litigation is possible and this will be important. Please contact your regional Biological Scientist or the Bureau of Community Environmental Health at (850) 488-3370 for technical assistance and training.

**A. EQUIPMENT RESOURCES**

1. Fisher Scientific (800) 772-6733
2. Forestry Suppliers, Inc.:
  - a. for a catalog: (800) 360-7788
  - b. for orders: (800) 647-5368.
3. Barnant Temperature Products (800) 637-3739.
4. Nasco Sampling Products (800) 558-9595.
5. Capital Office Supply (800) 552-1340.
6. Office Depot, WalMart, K-Mart.

**B. REFERENCES (copies should be kept in the kit):**

1. Procedures to Investigate Foodborne Illness, 5th Edition, 1999, International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians, Inc.
2. Procedures to Investigate Waterborne Illness, 2nd Edition, 1996, International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians, Inc.
3. Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, 17th Edition, 2000, American Public Health Association.

**C. TRANSPORTING EQUIPMENT:**

1. One large, hard plastic cooler, 36-40 quart capacity.

DOHM 150-4 (8-15-2003)

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2. One or two small coolers (hard plastic preferred).
3. Ten or more refreezable ice packs (blue ice).
4. Portable hard plastic file boxes for forms.

**D. SAMPLING CONTAINERS (FOOD):**

1. Whirlpac Sterile Bags, 1 or 2 boxes (500 bags per box)
  - a. 18 oz. write on (NASCO #B1065wa).
  - b. 24 oz. write on (NASCO #B1195wa).
  - c. 55 oz. write on (NASCO #B1195wa).
  - d. Larger sealed bags (12" x 16"): Lab Source, (800) 545-8823; Smith Container (407) 851-8310; Office and Scientific Equipment (703) 305-5537.
2. One case 1/2 quart WIDE mouth mason jars (wrap and autoclave).
3. One case 1 quart WIDE mouth mason jars (wrap and autoclave).
4. Aluminum foil, heavy meat paper and resealable plastic bags.

**E. SAMPLING CONTAINERS (CLINICAL):**

1. Stool containers for enterics. It is recommended that 25 to 50 be available. Be sure that the transport media for enterics is fresh (the usual media is bright pink when it is fresh).
2. Stool containers for parasites. There is no transport media in parasite containers.

**F. SAMPLING UTENSILS:**

1. 4 knives, 2 serrated and 2 straight edged
2. 2 spatulas
3. 4-6 large spoons
4. 2-3 scoops
5. 3-4 tongs
6. 2-3 ladles

DOHM 150-4 (8-15-2003)

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7. 5 large forks
8. 2 sets scissors

**G. SAMPLING SUPPORT MATERIALS:**

1. Tape, adhesive and masking.
2. Labels and tags.
3. Wax pencils, markers. Lab pens for writing on wet or frozen packs are available from PGC Scientific Corp, (800) 424-3300.
4. Alcohol swabs or 1-2 bottles of 95% ethyl alcohol.

**H. LABORATORY FORMS:**

1. Product complaint incident form HRS-H 4073, Nov. 87, stock # 5744-000-4073-4
2. Enteric pathogens HRS 932, Sep. 89
3. Investigation of a Foodborne Outbreak, CDC 52.13, Rev. 9/89
4. Waterborne Diseases Outbreak Report, CDC 52.12, Rev. 2/91

Note: During the investigation, use IAMFES investigation forms or contact your regional Biological Scientist for assistance.

**I. INVESTIGATION/HAZARD ANALYSIS EQUIPMENT:**

Note: Thermocouples, pH meters, and potentiometers are ideal, but are not absolutely necessary, since these analyses can be conducted at the laboratory after the samples have been collected.

1. Thermometers; 2-3 metal stem (bayonet), 0-220 F.
2. Test strips: chlorine, quaternary ammonia, iodine.
3. pH tester, potentiometer (redox).
4. Thermocouple(s), needle end.