



SOIL SAMPLE

How to Collect:

- Take 1 teaspoon (≈ 4 g or 4 ml) from at least 5 locations in a small compost pile, or 20 locations in a large windrow.
- Collect from different depths and positions to ensure a representative sample.
- Combine all teaspoons into one sandwich-sized plastic bag.

Bag Filling:

- Do not fill the bag more than halfway.
- If needed, mix the material in a sterile container first, then place a smaller portion into the bag.

Sealing:

- Seal the bag with air left inside. Do not squeeze out the air, oxygen prevents anaerobic conditions.

Labeling:

- Label the outside of the bag with the sample name using a permanent marker or affixed label.
- Do not place paper labels inside the bag (they degrade and alter biology).



LIQUID SAMPLE

Container Requirements:

- Use a clean, non-breakable 118 ml – 237 ml (4–8 oz) container with a sealable opening (e.g., plastic water bottle with screw cap).
- If unsure the bottle previously held only water, clean the inside thoroughly.

Filling Instructions:

- Fill the container one-third full to allow for adequate air headspace.
- Seal the cap tightly, then cover with duct tape.

Packaging:

- Place the sealed container inside a sealed plastic bag.

Labeling:

- Label the outside of the container with the sample name using a permanent marker or affixed label.

HANDLING & DELIVERY

- Keep samples cool and out of direct sunlight.
- Refrigerate until delivery.
- Deliver in person or ship overnight to maintain microbial integrity