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Treatment Manual

Residue Monitoring

Instructions for Collecting, Packaging, and Shipping Residue Monitoring Samples

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Safety

Pre-treatment samples will be shipped with dry ice. Be sure to store dry ice in well-ventilated areas and to transport dry ice and samples packed in dry ice in well-ventilated containers. Wear gloves when handling dry ice. For detailed information, see the Material Safety Data Sheet for dry ice, in the Emergency Aid and Safety section.

The Department of Transportation considers dry ice a hazardous material and requires that aircraft record the amount of dry ice carried in the cargo hold. Amounts of 5 pounds or less are not stringently regulated; however, include the weight of dry ice on the shipping label. In addition, some overnight delivery companies have restrictions on shipping dry ice. Equip shipping containers with loose-fitting lids to prevent an explosive release of sublimating carbon dioxide. Identify dry ice as ORM-A on the shipping label. Also indicate on the label that the package contains diagnostic specimens.

Collecting the Sample

You must take a sample prior to treatment (pre-treatment) and after aeration is completed (post-treatment). To avoid contaminating the sample, handle it as little as possible. Take pre-treatment and post-treatment samples from the same general location within a given lot (that is, the same bags, boxes, or other containers).

Some ports receive commodities several times a month. For example, the port of Ft. Lauderdale received 20 shipments of chayote in October 1992. These shipments need not be sampled each time. For frequently received commodities, ports should develop a routine sample collection plan, such as one sample collected per week. However, when a new commodity is received or a commodity is received infrequently (once a week or less), collect a sample each time the commodity is treated.

Pre-treatment Sample

1. Collect a minimum of 450 grams (approximately 1 pound) except for herbs of which you need to collect 150 grams (approximately one-third pound). If you are collecting fruits or vegetables that are heavy (for example grapefruit or yams), be sure to collect at least two pieces of produce that weigh 450 grams.
2. Place these samples in containers with dry ice.
3. Ship the pre-treatment samples separately from post-treatment samples.

Post-treatment Samples

1. Collect a minimum of 450 grams (approximately 1 pound) except for herbs of which you need to collect 150 grams (approximately one-third pound). If you are collecting fruits or vegetables that are heavy (for example grapefruit or yams), be sure to collect at least two pieces of produce that weigh 450 grams.
2. Ship the post-treatment samples separately from the pre-treatment samples and in accordance with standard shipping practices. If the samples require refrigeration, then ship the samples with wet ice or ice packs. If the samples are normally shipped at ambient temperature (for example yams), then ship them without ice.

Labeling the Sample

Label each sample container with the State, county, date, and name of contents and whether the sample is “pre” or “post” treatment. For this label, use waterproof ink on a strip of masking tape or other label material. Be sure to attach the label before leaving the sampling site. Securely fasten a plastic envelope containing the yellow copy of the APHIS Form 2061 to the side of the sampling container. Label this envelope with the same information that you placed on the sample container (State, county, date, and name of contents and whether sample was “pre” or “post” treatment).

Storing the Sample

Immediately place the samples in a freezer or refrigerator until you are ready to package the samples for shipping.

Shipping Samples

Quarantine Requirements

Ship all samples in leakproof, double sealed containers. Make sure that your pre-treatment sample is secure since it does not meet entry requirements for the United States. The National Monitoring and Residue Monitoring Analysis Laboratory (NMRAL) will handle and dispose of samples in accordance with APHIS regulations.

Ship samples in coolers with dry ice packed above the samples. The lid of the cooler should be loose fitting to allow gasses to escape. Ship the samples using the contract overnight delivery service or the U.S. Postal Service Overnight Delivery. Ship the samples to:

USDA, APHIS, BBEP, NMRAL
Joseph Ford, Director
3505 25th Avenue, Building 9
Gulfport, MS 39501

Mail all correspondence to:

USDA, APHIS, BBEP, NMRAL
P.O. Box 3209
Gulfport, MS 39505-3209

The telephone number is 601/863-8124 or 863-1813.

See Appendix A for instructions on completing an APHIS Form 2061, Residue Sample for Food or Feed Product.

