SurfACE™ Sampling Solutions in Food Production

Easy-to-use, sterile specimen collection and surface sampling kits for quality control and identification of hazards at critical control points in food production.

Making the World's Food Safer®

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The environment is a principal source of microbiological contamination within a food processing facility. Environmental testing is therefore a crucial part of any food safety program.
With a strong focus on environmental testing, Romer Labs provides a broad range of sampling solutions covering **food production.**

Environmental Sampling for Food Production Applications

Dry and pre-moistened sterile cellulose sponges are convenient, ready-to-use products. They eliminate the costly and time-consuming steps of diluent preparation, sterilization and application to the sampling devices. They are designed to make it more convenient to sample microbes from surfaces in food processing facilities and industrial settings. The use of different pre-moistening solutions enables a broad range of environmental and product (carcass) sampling applications.

Available pre-moistening solutions:

Dey-Engley Neutralizing Broth (DE) – DE neutralizing broth assists in the recovery of micro-organisms in samples taken from surfaces exposed to sanitizing agents. It neutralizes the bactericidal and bacteriostatic effects of sanitizing agents such as chlorine, quaternary ammonium compounds, iodine, phenolics, mercurials, formaldehyde and glutaraldehyde. The medium also contains nutritive agents that aid in recovering and promoting the growth of microorganisms. Bromocresol purple is present in the broth as a colorimetric indicator.

Neutralizing Buffer (NB) – The neutralizing buffer assists in the recovery of microorganisms in samples taken from surfaces exposed to sanitizing agents. Of a different color from DE neutralizing broth, it offers the same neutralizing effect but does not include nutrition for the growth of microorganisms. It is therefore classified as a buffer instead of a broth.

Buffered Peptone Water (BPW) – Buffered Peptone Water is a pre-enrichment medium useful in isolating *Salmonella* from foods. During many food processes, *Salmonella* and other species can suffer sub-lethal injury from processes involving heat, desiccation, preservatives, pH changes or osmotic pressure shifts. BPW has been shown to facilitate resuscitation of stressed cells and is recommend in the ISO 18593 (Microbiology of the food chain — Horizontal methods for surface sampling) as a moistening solution sampling devices for the recovery of microorganisms from surfaces.

Letheen Broth (LB) – Letheen broth is a highly nutritional medium that contains lecithin and Tween 80. It is used for testing the efficacy of sanitizing protocols as lecithin neutralizes quaternary ammonium compounds while Tween 80 neutralizes phenols, hexachlorophene and formalin.

Maximum Recovery Diluent (MRD) - Maximum Recovery Diluent is formulated as recommended by ISO 18593 for use as a diluent for general purpose. It is also known as Peptone salt solution (0.1% Peptone, 0.85% NaCl).

Romer Labs SurfACE™ Sampling Buffers

Ingredient [g/L]	MRD	NB	LB	DE	BPW
Bromocresol purple				0.04	
Casein digest			10	5	
Dextrose				10	
Beef Extract			5		
Lecithin		7	0.7	7	
Neutral Peptone	1				10
Polysorbate 80 (Tween 80)		5	5	5	
Potassium phosphate dibasic		8.5		8	1.5
Sodium Bisulfite		1.25		2.5	
Sodium Chloride	8.5		5		5
Sodium Phosphate di-basic		3		4	3.5
Sodium Thioglycolate		1		1	
Sodium Thiosulfate		6		6	
Yeast Extract				2.5	

MRD: Maximum Recovery Diluent
NB: Neutralizing Buffer
LB: Letheen Broth
DE: Dey-Engley Neutralizing Broth
BPW: Buffered Peptone Water

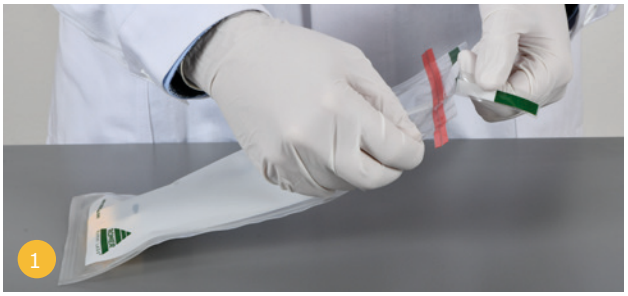
Sponge-Stick

- 3" x 1.5" (7.5 x 3.5 cm) biocide-free cellulose sponge
- Unique, quick sponge-release handle for fast and convenient sponge release
- Thumb stop in-handle included to avoid accidental sponge contact
- No gloves needed for different sampling sites
- Perfectly suited to sample in gaps, drains and pipes
- Dry or pre-moistened with 10 ml buffer
- Bags can be opened easily with attached pull tabs
- Label area for sample identification
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Available in two versions:

1. Sponge-Stick in vapor-barrier aluminum foil pouch (includes also sterile Twirl-Tie™ bag; 24 oz 5.5" x 9")
2. Sponge-Stick placed in Twirl-Tie™ bag

Procedure:



Tear bag and remove sponge handle.

Collect sample by vigorously rubbing sponge on target area (e.g. 30 x 30 cm, 1 x 1 ft.).

Release sponge from the quick release handle into the Twirl-Tie™ bag provided, by pulling the clip back.

Close the Twirl-Tie™ bag with the wires attached and label it. No switching of gloves between sampling sites needed.

Package Size	Description	Item No.	
	Pre-moistened with 10 ml	**In Twirl-Tie™ bag**	**In aluminum foil (incl. sterile Twirl-Tie™ bag)**
75 (aluminum foil: 100)	Neutralizing buffer (NB)	10006157	10003700
75 (aluminum foil: 100)	Dey-Engley neutralizing broth (DE)	10006265	10003698
75 (aluminum foil: 100)	Letheen broth (LB)	10006298	10003699
75 (aluminum foil: 100)	Buffered peptone water (BPW)	10006267	10003697
75	Dry	10006300	

Sponge

- 3" x 1.5" (7.5 x 3.5 cm) biocide-free cellulose sponge
- Available dry or pre-moistened with 10 ml buffer
- In Twirl-Tie™ bag or in vapor-barrier aluminum foil (extended shelf life)
- vapor-barrier aluminum foil Kit includes also a sterile Twirl-Tie™ bag (24 oz; 5.5" x 9")
  and a pair of sterile plastic gloves
- Bags can be opened easily with attached pull tabs
- Label area for sample identification
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Sponge in Vial

- 3" x 1.5" (7.5 x 3.5 cm) biocide-free cellulose sponge
- Pre-moistened with 10 ml buffer
- In a 120 ml plastic screw-cap vial
- Label attached for sample identification

Open the pouch or bag or vial and remove sponge with gloved hand.

Collect sample by vigorously rubbing sponge on targeted area (e.g. 30 x 30 cm, 1 x 1 ft.).

Put sponge into the sterile sample bag (or back into the vial) and label bag with sample details. Always switch gloves between sampling sites.

Procedure:

Package Size	Description	Item No.			
	Sponge pre-moistened with 10 ml	**Sponge in Twirl-Tie™ bag**	**Sponge in Vial**	**Sponge in Alu-foil**	**Sponge In Alu-foil Kit (incl. Twirl-Tie™ bag & gloves)**
100 (Kit: 50)	Neutralizing buffer (NB)	10006293	10003755	10001901	10001895
100 (Kit: 50)	Dey-Engley neutralizing broth (DE)	10006264	10003753	10001899	10001893
100 (Kit: 50)	Letheen broth (LB)	10006299	10003754	10001900	10001894
100 (Kit: 50)	Buffered peptone water (BPW)	10006266	10003752	10001898	10001892
250	Dry	10006301			

Fabric Swab

- 28 x 32 cm blue biocide-free fabric swab (swab cloth)
- Pre-moistened with 10 ml buffer
- In 55 oz.; 7.5 x 12" (19 x 30 cm) Twirl-Tie™ bag
- Bags can be opened easily with attached pull-tabs
- Label area for sample identification
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Procedure:

Open the bag and remove fabric swab with gloved hand.

Collect sample by vigorously rubbing fabric swab on targeted area (e.g. 30 x 30 cm, 1 x 1 ft.).

Put the swab into the sterile Twirl-Tie™ bag and label bag with sample details. Always switch gloves between sampling sites.

Close the Twirl-Tie™ bag with the wires attached.

Fabric Swabs (according to EU Commission Regulation, 28 x 35 cm, ≥ 900 cm²) in 55 oz. (1.62 L) Twirl-Tie™ bag, sterile 7.5" x 12" (19 x 30 cm)

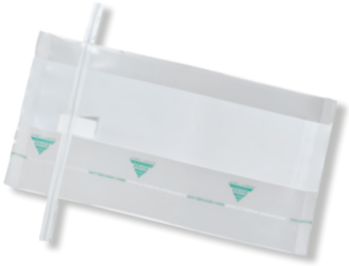
Package Size	Description	Item No.
200	Fabric Swab pre-moistened with MRD	10004589
200	Fabric swab pre-moistened with Neutralizing buffer (NB)	10006188

Miscellaneous Environmental Sampling Products

Sterile Gloves

- In convenient tear-open plastic pouch
- Packaged as a pair of gloves per pouch
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Sterile Sampling Bag



- Sterile 18 oz (0.5 L) or 24 oz (0.7 L) bags
- Twirl-Tie™ style sample bags
- Label area for sample identification
- Bags can be opened easily with attached pull tabs
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Sterile Carcass Sampling Template

- 100 square cm (10 x 10 cm) or 50 square cm (10 x 5 cm)
- For carcass or surface sampling
- Made of rigid paperboard to withstand vigorous use
- Packaged in an easy-to-open plastic bag
- Irradiated for proven sterility

Package Size	Description	Item No.
100	100 cm^2 template packaged in re-closable bag	10003780
100	50 cm^2 template packaged in re-closable bag	10003786
50 pairs	Co-polymer gloves size XL packaged in peel open pouch	10002795
100	18 oz. (0.5 L) Twirl-Tie™ bag, sterile 4.5" x 9"	10001883
100	24 oz. (0.7 L) Twirl-Tie™ bag, sterile 5.5" x 9"	10001884
500	55 oz. (1.62 L) Twirl-Tie™ bag, sterile 7.5" x 12"	10001886

Romer Labs Inc · Newark, DE, USA · **T** +1 302 781 6400 · **F** +1 302 781 6378 · **E** office@romerlabs.com
Romer Labs Diagnostic GmbH · Tulln, Austria · **T** +43 2272 615 33 · **F** +43 2272 615 33 13177 · **E** office-europe@romerlabs.com
Romer Labs Singapore Pte. Ltd · Singapore · **T** +65 6631 8018 · **F** +65 6275 5584 · **E** salesasia@romerlabs.com

www.romerlabs.com

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