

Environmental Monitoring: Feed and Bedding Testing

Husbandry materials used in your animal rooms are potential transporters of infectious pathogens. Charles River recommends testing feed and bedding semi-annually or any time you change vendors. Testing these materials provides secondary confirmation that the vendor of these supplies is adequately sterilizing the materials. Or, if performing your own sterilization, it can serve as secondary confirmation that your procedures and equipment are working correctly.

We are here to help you. For facility specific recommendations, please contact us.

We provide:

- Submission forms
- Individually wrapped, 220 mL sterile polypropylene containers
- Shipping container to return samples

Sample Collection Procedure

Label all containers with the sample identification, date and time of collection.

In order for your sample to most accurately reflect the source, it is best to collect samples aseptically in a biological safety cabinet. Aseptically fill one sample container, using sterile gloved hands or a sterilized scoop, with animal feed or bedding to the 220 mL demarcation.

When finished, recap the sample bottles. Return the samples in the shipping container provided. Please include the completed submission form.

Send samples and submission forms, in the shipping crates provided, to:

Charles River
Attn: Microbiology Laboratory
251 Ballardvale Street
Wilmington, MA 01887

Please contact us at 1.877.CRIVER1 (1.877.274.8371) or askcharlesriver@crl.com with any questions regarding sample submission.