

How To Sample Water For Irrigation Suitability

Supplies:

16 ounce Sample Bottle
Water Resistant Marker
Sample Submittal Form

Sampling Procedure:

1. Using the water resistant marker, record the following information on an unopened sample bottle: Grower Name & Sample Identification
2. Proceed to sample area.

Distribution System

1. If the water is to be taken from a distribution system, select a tap that is supplying water directly connected to the main system.
2. Open the tap fully and let the water run for 3-5 minutes or until the line is completely flushed.
3. Fill sample container and cap tightly.

Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Reservoirs, etc.

1. Do not take samples too near the bank or too far from the point of drain off, or at a depth above or below the drain off point. Samples should be representative of the water that is used as the source of irrigation.
2. Hold the sample bottle by its base and plunge into the water source with the neck of the bottle facing down.
3. Slowly turn the bottle upward allowing the bottle to fill and cap the bottle tightly.

Transportation

1. Place the samples in a box with sufficient packing material to keep the samples from moving around during transportation to the laboratory.
2. Ship samples to laboratory using the pre-printed UPS ARS label or equivalent shipping method.