

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

PERFORMING THE TEST

To accommodate your specific needs, the IMS Laboratory Mold Test Kit provides **three (3)** distinct sampling methods. No matter which method you choose, if you have mold in your environment, it should be visible after a five day incubation period. If mold is visible, you should send the sample to IMS Laboratory for identification through our optional laboratory analysis (this service is available for \$30 per sample submitted).

NOTE: THESE SAMPLING TECHNIQUES AND MODALITIES ARE SUBJECT TO THE OCCURRENCE OF FALSE NEGATIVE AND FALSE POSITIVE RESULTS.

SELECT TEST METHOD

(The Mold Test Kit can **only** be used once with **only** one of the three testing methods. If you want to perform more than one test or use several methods, you must purchase additional mold test kits)

- **Method 1 -- (Heating and Cooling System Test)**
 1. Take prepared petri dish to air vent that is the furthest from the Heating and Cooling System.
 2. Remove the lid of the petri dish. Using duct tape (not supplied) carefully affix the bottom of the petri dish to the vent with the top of the petri dish facing the vent.
 3. Make sure that all the other vents are closed.
 4. Turn on the system (high fan) for a period of ten (10) minutes.
 5. After the ten (10) minutes, remove the petri dish from the air vent, replace the lid and seal with tape (not supplied). Write your last name and the location where the test was taken on the bottom of the dish.
 6. See Incubation Directions.
- **Method 2 -- (Circulating Room Air Test)**
 1. Twenty four (24) hours prior to performing test, close all windows to the room that will be tested.
 2. Take prepared petri dish to the room to be tested and locate a suitable surface on which to place the dish (e.g. dresser, table, chair).
 3. Remove the lid of the petri dish and allow to sit undisturbed for a period of one (1) hour
 4. After the one (1) hour, replace the lid and seal with tape (not supplied). Write your last name and the location where the test was taken on the bottom of the dish.
 5. See Incubation Directions.
- **Method 3 -- (Topical Evidence of Visible Mold Growth)**
 1. Take prepared petri dish and swab (provided) to the area of mold growth to be tested.
 2. Remove the lid of the petri dish.
 3. Take swab in hand (be careful not to touch cotton end) and wipe the suspected mold back and forth until you have an adequate sample (a four (4) inch square area is sufficient)
 4. Carefully transfer the mold sample to the petri dish by lightly swiping the tip of the swab containing the suspected mold back and forth on the surface of the PDA in the bottom of the petri dish.
 5. Replace the lid and seal with tape (not provided). Write your last name and the location where the test was taken on the bottom of the dish.
 6. See Incubation Directions.

INCUBATION DIRECTIONS

1. **Incubate the sample for 5 days.** If nothing grows, incubate for an additional two days. Best results are obtained when the petri dish is placed at room temperature in a dark location. (e.g. in a suitcase under the bed, or a drawer).
2. If following the incubation period there is mold growth, proceed to Lab Results Directions.

INTERPRETING YOUR RESULTS

- After the incubation period, any growth can be considered a positive test results. This growth indicates mold present from your sample area.
- If there is no growth after seven (7) days, the mold test is negative. Simply discard the kit.

Warning: In the event your petri dish shows signs of mold growth after the incubation period, it is highly advisable to have the sample analyzed at IMS Laboratory to determine the type of mold(s) present. This information is useful in determining allergy treatment and/or clean up processes.

If you have a positive test result and you wish to have the sample analyzed by IMS Laboratory, place the sample in a sealed plastic bag and send it in a padded envelope in the provided return mailer, along with the information form (detach from reverse) and your check, money order or credit card information, to:

**IMS Laboratory
3250 Old Farm Lane, Suite 1,
Walled Lake, Michigan 48390**

After our receipt of your samples, it will take approximately 2 weeks to receive your laboratory results via email. You also have the option of receiving your results via FAX or U.S. Mail for an additional fee. **If you need your results faster, we offer both EXPRESS service (4-7 days) and RUSH service (1-2 days) for an additional charge.**

Please see attached information form for further directions.

Please remember to label all samples with last name and location of test on the bottom of each petri dish

NOTE: In the event that samples are damaged in the shipping process and are otherwise unreadable, IMS Laboratory is *not* responsible for the cost of retesting.