

Recommended Sample Container, Preservation, Storage & Holding Times Table

Parameter (Analyte)	Matrix	Analysis Technique	Container Type*	Temperature	Preservation	Holding Time(s) for Testing	Sample Weight (min)	Method(s)	Optimum Quantitation Limits (QLs)
Forage	Solid	NIR	PL/PA	NA	NA	30 days	Gallon ziplock bag filled	NIR	Various
Feeds	Solid	Elementar, Ankom	PL/PA	NA	NA	30 days	Quart ziplock bag filled	TM-408/TM-410/TM-412	1%
Aflatoxins	Solid	ELISA	P/FP/G/PL/PA	NA	NA	30 days	20 g	TM-496	5 ppb
N-P-K	Poultry Litter/ Manure	Elementar, ICP-OES	P/FP/G/PL	NA	NA	30 days	Quart freezer ziplock filled - double bag sample	Various	1%
Mercury	Solid/ Aqueous	DMA-80	P/FP/G/PL	Cool, ≤ 6°C	NA	30 days	5 g/ 5 mL	TM-008	0.6 ppb
Lead	Playground Soil	AA	P/FP/G/PL/PA	NA	NA	30 days	10 g ziplock bag	TM-018	400 ppm
Metals	Solid/ Aqueous	ICP-OES/ ICP-MS	P/FP	NA / Cool, ≤ 6°C	NA/HNO ₃ , pH <2	30 days/ 7 days	20 g/20 mL	TM-017/TM-015	200 ppb/1 ppb
Pesticides	Solid/ Aqueous	LC-MS/MS and/or GC-MS/MS	P/FP/G/PL/PA	Cool, ≤ 6°C	NA	30 days/ 7 days	20 g/1 L	TM-013/TM-014	5 ppb/0.1 ppb

* "P" is polyethylene; "FP" is fluoropolymer (i.e. PTFE, Teflon); "G" is glass; "PL" is any plastic; "PA" is paper.