

WIPE, Test Code 1066-Stachybotrys Culture, Direct Microscopic Exam & Total Fungal Count w/ Identification.

The wipe culture test code 1066 includes a *Stachybotrys* Culture, Total Fungal Count with Identification, and a direct exam.

Stachybotrys is a toxigenic fungus that is commonly recovered from chronically wetted cellulose-based materials. Due to its toxigenicity, it has been linked to health problems in contaminated buildings and should be treated prudently and in accordance with recommended abatement guidelines.

1. Crush the ampoule in the bottom of the swab to moisten the swab before sampling.
2. Remove both swabs of the double system and sample the affected surface by rolling both swabs vigorously over the area. Indicate surface area (cm² or in²) on chain of custody. Assessment samples should be no larger than a 4 x 4 area. Post abatement samples may be larger.
3. Label all samples appropriately and submit to the laboratory for analysis in a timely manner. *Swabs should be refrigerated if the samples are not immediately sent to the lab. A cold pack and cooler should be used during the warm months.

References:

Dillon, H. Kenneth, L. Hung, J. Miller, Field Guide for the Determination of Biological Contaminants in Environmental Samples., 5.2.6.6:61, 7.1: 141-143 (2005).

Macher, Janet, Sc.D., M.P.H., Bioaerosols , 7.4.1.2, 18.1.4.2 (1999).