

Notes regarding sampling water and drinking water for bacteriological analysis

Sampling for microbiological and hygiene-chemical analyses must take place under sterile conditions. Unprofessional sampling can negatively influence the analysis result! Please adhere to the following notes:

1. If it is required that the health authorities accept the results of the analyses, the sampling must be **officially recognised** (sampling by LUFA personnel). However, if you would like to have your water analysed for your own purposes, you can sample yourself.
2. As a matter of principle, **sterile glass bottles** with tin foil covered stopper and neck are always used for microbiological analyses. Please do not confuse these bottles with those for sampling for the analysis of chemical parameters. Sterile bottles for sampling can be obtained from LUFA free of charge. However, they can also be purchased from pharmacies and in emergencies, boiled mineral water bottles can be used.
3. When **sampling from taps**, the tap is opened fully and closed again several times, to flush out any dirt particles (please remove aerator first). Then flame the spout thoroughly with a naked flame (first remove flammable material from the taps, such as aerators). When opening the tap afterwards, a clear hissing noise must be audible. Then, let the water run freely for approx. 5 minutes, fill the bottle without splashing (not full to the brim, only approx. 5/6 full), close the bottle and label with name, address, type of water sample and the date.
4. When sampling **wells**, the outflow is flamed long enough to ensure it is fully dried. The well is pumped evenly for approx. 10 minutes. While doing so, take care that the pumped water does not run back into the well or drains away in the immediate vicinity of the well. Fill the bottle without splashing (not full to the brim, only approx. 5/6 full), close the bottle and label with name, address, type of water sample and the date.
5. In case a thermal disinfection is impossible, a chemical disinfection (alcohol) must be used.
6. The water samples should be transported **cool, dark and as quickly as possible** to LUFA Nord-West. For technical reasons, the optimal times for sample receipt are **Tuesdays or Thursdays** until 9.30 am. The sample should be taken shortly before.
7. The samples can be transported using the collection points of the **LUFA - pick-up service**. The time and place you can find in the Land- und Forstwirtschaftliche Zeitung. Should you not have any information regarding this, you can call LUFA Nord-West in Hameln on **Tel.: +49 (0) 5151 9871- 40** and organise transport before taking the sample.
8. The marked samples must be accompanied by a fully filled out analysis order. If there are any questions regarding sampling or scope of the analyses, please discuss these with the point of contact given below:

Important:

The screw top is taken off together with the tin foil. The lid may not be put down, and the inner areas of the vessel and lid must not be touched with the hands.

Point of contact: Dr. Hoffmann, Tel.: +49 (0) 5151/9871-82