## Experiment set-up

The cultures were set up in 50 ml centrifuge tubes. See the following one for one of them (7.5 ml culture).

A picture containing text, indoor, vessel, bottle

Description automatically generated

Cultures were randomised on four foam boards. See the following image for one of them.

A picture containing chart

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The four boards were left in an incubator.

A picture containing text, indoor, open

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## Resource exchange (microwaving)

The cultures were disposed in a numerical order on racks. Then, a certain amount of culture (7.5 ml for large disturbance, 5.25 ml for small disturbance) were pipetted out of each culture. This was pipetted into a “microwaving” falcon tube that mimicked the culture tube, but this time with a yellow band on its lead to don’t confuse it with a culture tube. On the microwaving tube there was written the number of the culture from the resource were flowing (100 in this case) and the number of the culture to which they were flowing (99 in this case).

A picture containing indoor, window

Description automatically generated

The tubes were then microwaved to boil the community and turn it into detritus. For the first two events, we microwaved 15 tubes at the time for 3 minutes.

A picture containing indoor, counter, open, kitchen appliance

Description automatically generated

However, because we had a lot of evaporation, we switched for the other resource exchanges to microwaving only four tubes at the time for one minute.

A picture containing indoor, appliance, counter, kitchen appliance

Description automatically generated

After the microwaving, the tubes were left cool down and the content of the tube was poured into the receiving culture.

## Experiment sampling (videos)

The foam boards were sampled using Eppendorf tubes. These were disposed on four racks that mirrored the disposition of the randomised cultures in the foam boards. See the following image for one of them.

