

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION INSTRUCTIONS

Materials needed:

- Medical gloves
- Clean scissors
- Bleach
- 50ml sterile tubes

Collect and store samples from a metaprobe:

1. Wear medical gloves
2. Collect the metaprobe from wherever you are using it

3. **Open the metaprobe on a clean surface.**

Clean a surface with 10% bleach (if possible) or a cleaning product that contains bleach. Cut the zip-ties that hold the metaprobe closed.

4. **Place each roll of gauze into a 50ml sterile tube.**

Fill the 50ml sterile tube with either silica beads or 99% ethanol to preserve the genetic material. If silica beads, ensure the beads totally surround the roll of gauze. If using 99% ethanol, make sure the sample is completely submerged.

5. **Keep the samples in a cool, safe place.**

In the field, keep the sample tubes in a place as cold and safe as possible. Once in the lab, the samples should be frozen at -20°C until DNA extraction.

