

# SAMPLE COLLECTION GUIDE: GILL SWABS

Correct sampling procedures and treatment of tissue samples are important to ensure optimal quality of the analyses.

This guide contains PatoGen's recommendations on how to ensure optimal quality of swab samples for real-time PCR analysis.

In general, it is recommended that sampling be performed by experienced personnel. PatoGen can undertake sampling or training of personnel in sampling routines on request.

## PatoGen sampling package with ENAT and swabs

The package has been developed as part of PatoGen's quality control system and consists of swabs, labeled sample tubes, ice packs, and packaging for transporting the samples to PatoGen's laboratories. The system is designed to prevent sample exchange and ensure the quality of the samples sent to PatoGen. The kits have a shelf life of six months (expiration date is printed on the side of the kit) and should be stored at room temperature until use.

## SAMPLING

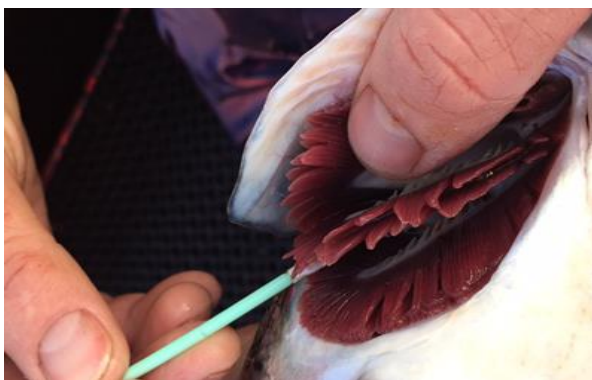
### Sampling equipment

- PatoGen tube with ENAT buffer
- Sterile swabs



### Non-invasive gill swabbing

- Swabbing can be performed in connection with other operations such as lice counting.
- The fish should be anesthetized prior to sampling.



- Hold the fish's gill cover open when swabbing is performed. With the fish's left side up, swab the outside and inside of the 1st gill arch. Continue with both sides of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th gill arch until the swab is full. Run

the swab from the arch to the tip of the gill and rotate the swab a little during swabbing. If necessary, use tweezers to lift the gill cover to minimize contamination.

- When the gill arches are finished swabbing, put the swab in the buffer tube.
- Each swab has a breaking point. When the swab end is off and placed in the buffer, screw the tube cap back on.



### Registration of information

Register the sample collection electronically in PatoLink or in the order form that accompanied the sample collection package.

See "Guide: Register sample collection in PatoLink" and contact us if you have questions about access to or use of PatoLink.

All samples registered with PatoLink have a shorter delivery time - 4 working days response time versus normally 5 working days.

### Shipment

If the entire putty is not used up, the test tubes can be placed in a plastic bag and sent in, so that the rest of the putty can be used later.

The samples should be sent to PatoGen with a cooling element/ice pack. The package should be sent by express overnight to the address below. Send tracking number to [sample@patogen.no] or +47 957 07 910.

**PATOGEN AS - RASMUS RØNNEBERGS GATE 21 - 6002 ÅLESUND**

**PATOGEN NORD AS - KLINKERVEIEN 8 - 8006 BODØ**

**PATOGEN - Malin House - European Marine Science Park - Dunbeg - PA37 1SZ Oban**

