

## KEY FOR WATER SAMPLE TESTS

Alk	Alkalinity	Na	Sodium
B	Boron	Na Hazard	Sodium Hazard Irrigation Water
Ca	Calcium	NH4-N	Nitrogen as ammonium-N
Cl	Chloride	NO2-N	Nitrogen as nitrite-N
Cl2	Residual Chlorine	NO3-N	Nitrogen as nitrate-N
CO3	Carbonate	pH	pH
Cu	Copper	PO4-P	Phosphorus as phosphate-P
DO	Dissolved Oxygen	Purity	Total Coliform & E. Coli Bacteria in Drinking Water
EC	Electrical Conductivity	Sal Hazard	Salinity Hazard Irrigation Water
F	Fluoride	SAR	Sodium Absorption Ration
Fe	Iron	SAR adj	Sodium Absorption Ration Adjusted
Hardness	Hardness	SO4-S	Sulfur as Sulfate-S
HCO3	Bicarbonate	TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
I	Iodine	TKN	Nitrogen as Total Kjeldahl N
K	Potassium	Total P	Phosphorus as Total P
Lime	Lime as CaCO3 Equivalent	Total S	Sulfur as Total S
Mg	Magnesium	Turb	Turbidity
Mn	Manganese	Zn	Zinc

## DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTING WATER SAMPLES

1. Three sterile bottles are provided for analyzing a water sample. DO NOT rinse the bottles before filling. The bottle with the BLUE LABEL must be used for the coliform bacteria (purity) test. This bottle contains sodium thiosulfate powder. The bottle with the RED LABEL must be used for the nitrate test only and contains a small amount of concentrated sulfuric acid (please avoid skin contact). The bottle with the GREEN LABEL is used for all other tests excluding coliform bacteria (purity) and nitrate. Please fill all bottles to the top with the water sample.
2. Obtain the sample from the faucet normally used for drinking purposes. Allow water to run through the faucet for 5-10 minutes before filling the sample bottle.
3. Irrigation wells should be sampled during the middle of the irrigation season.
4. Water samples should be sent to the laboratory immediately after collection. The coliform bacteria and E. coli tests must be started within 30 hours after the sample is collected. When these tests are requested, please send the water sample in the box provided to the laboratory via USPS, UPS, FedEx, or similar delivery service to ensure the sample arrives at the laboratory within this 30 hour time requirement. Samples should arrive at the lab on Tuesday through Thursday if sent by UPS or USPS. To avoid a fee surcharge, do not send water samples to the laboratory on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Samples can be brought to the lab on Monday through Thursday if personally delivered. Please provide the lab with the requested information on the reverse side of this form.
5. American Agricultural Laboratory is certified by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to test public and private water samples for total coliform and E. coli and to test private water samples for nitrate.