

Blue-Green Algae Toxicology Test

Blue-green algae can be toxic to humans and livestock. It is important that you test your water body if there is any concern that you might have blue-green algae. Not all blue-green algae are toxic, but it is best to be sure before swimming, fishing, allowing pets to swim and drink, or watering livestock. Test results tell you whether you have toxic blue-green algae at the time the sample was taken. Results cannot predict toxic blue-green algae blooms in the future.

Collecting a Sample

1. Find a leak-proof plastic bottle that holds at least ½ L or 20oz.
2. Put on latex or rubber gloves before taking the water sample. If there are toxins they can be absorbed through the skin.
3. Fill the bottle with pond water from the surface of the water and include as much pond scum and film as possible.
4. Package the bottle in a box with a cold pack and ship right away. For best results, the lab should receive the sample within 24 hours.

Here are two options for sending in blue-green algae samples:

1. Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Blue-Green Algae Test 1800 Denison Avenue Manhattan, KS 66506

Cost for this test at K-State is \$18.50. Click [here](#) for submission form. Complete Owner Contact Information at the top, then check the Blue-Green Algae Test in the “Toxicology” box on the second page. Print and mail in with your sample.

If you have questions contact the diagnostic laboratory directly at 866-512-5650.

2. SDK Laboratories, Inc. Blue-Green Algae Test 1000 Corey Road Hutchinson, KS 67501

Cost for this test at SDK Labs is \$25. Click [here](#) for submission form. Complete form online, print and mail in with your sample.

If you have questions contact the lab directly at (620) 665-5661.