

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

FLASH[®] is high-sensitivity protein test that rapidly detects protein residues left on food contact surfaces after cleaning. Used as part of a HACCP allergen control program, FLASH supports process verification requirements that ensure cleaning methods, validated to effectively remove allergens, are consistently applied.

FLASH has been tested against common allergenic proteins including soy flour, gluten flour, milk powder, egg powder, peanut butter, roasted almonds, raw fish (cod), and raw shrimp.

Part No. 63003-100 (100 tests)

KIT COMPONENTS

100 protein swabs

30 color comparison stickers

IMPORTANT USAGE GUIDELINES

FLASH is designed with two levels of sensitivity to accommodate industry needs and for areas in the plant requiring additional sensitivity. For detection of protein residues down to 20 µg, the swab can be read 10 minutes after activation at room temperature. If greater sensitivity is desired (as low as 3 µg), the FLASH swab can be incubated at 70 °C for 10 ± 4 minutes. Follow the appropriate test procedure below for the desired application.

ROOM TEMPERATURE PROTOCOL

Materials Needed: FLASH swabs

A. Collecting Sample

- Twist to remove the pre-moistened swab from its tube. Be careful not to touch the swab or inside the tube with fingers.
- Thoroughly swab a standard 10 x 10 cm (4 x 4 in) area of interest for a typical flat surface. For irregularly shaped surfaces, ensure swabbing technique remains consistent each time you swab. Reinsert the swab into the swab tube using a twisting motion to ensure it is sealed.

B. Activating Device

- To activate the swab, hold upright and push the plunger down until it is fully depressed. The reagents will be dispensed through the swab shaft washing the sample off the swab tip and into the collection tube.
- Shake the swab for 5 seconds to ensure the entire sample has been rinsed from the swab tip and reagents are thoroughly mixed in the bottom of the tube.

Note: After sampling, the swab is stable for one hour prior to activation.

INCUBATION PROTOCOL

For the high-sensitivity detection of potentially allergenic residues, a dry bath set to 70 °C is required. Follow the dry bath heater instructions to ensure proper temperature settings.

Materials Needed:

FLASH swabs

Digital Dry Bath Heater (120 Volt, Part No. 73061 / 240 Volt, Part No. 73011) set to 70 ± 2 °C with 24-Tube Rack or similar product.

Optional:

An additional 24-Tube Rack (Part No. 52125) for Digital Dry Bath Heater can be used to run a total of 48 samples at one time.

A. Collecting Sample

- Follow the steps outlined in the Room Temperature test procedure.
- Once activated, place in the dry bath heater, with at least one 24-tube rack inserted, set to 70 °C and heat for 10 minutes.

Note: After sampling, the swab is stable for one hour prior to activation.

INTERPRETING RESULTS



To accurately determine the swab's result, consult the color comparison chart above or on the swab pouch label. In addition, color comparison stickers are provided in each box of FLASH to label the swabs or data record sheets for convenient interpretation.

Note: Result must be read at 10 min precisely, but never more than 14 min maximum. **Any further color changes after 14 min are invalid and should be disregarded.**

When protein is present on a surface, the swab's liquid will change from green to purple. The intensity and pace of the color change is dependent on the level of protein in the sample.

Green → Pass Result. No further action is required.

Gray or clear → Warning range (trace amounts of protein present). Re-clean and re-test in accordance with internal procedures.

Light to Dark Purple → Protein is present. Re-clean and re-test.

Note: In remote instances, purple may appear within the swab shaft or on the swab tip itself. This occurrence, while extremely rare, is possible but does not affect accuracy or result interpretation.

Room Temperature Protocol Interpretation:

Room temperature color results are available in as little as 60 seconds. However, a full 10 minutes must be allotted to confirm true negative readings. If the swab remains green at 10 minutes, less than 20 µG of protein resides on the surface.

Incubation Protocol Interpretation

When heating the swab in a dry bath at 70 °C, a color change can be expected at 10 ± 4 minutes. For true negative results, wait a full 10 minutes to read the test. If the swab remains green at 10 minutes, less than 3 µG of potentially allergenic protein residues reside on the surface.

CONTROL

A. Negative Control

A negative control is an unused yet activated FLASH swab. Keep the swab tube cover on at all times.

- (a) Negative control results should appear as any shade of green, gray or clear. Consult the provided color comparison chart for result interpretation.

- (b) Should a negative control result in a purple color, repeat the Negative Control procedure. If the swab still yields purple, contact BioControl Technical Services at 800.245.0113. A negative control after turning purple at 10 ± 4 min at 70 °C may indicate an issue with swab handling.

PRECAUTIONS

If accidental activation prior to sampling occurs, do not use device.

Hold swab upright when activating and keep upright while waiting for result.

STORAGE

Swabs should be stored between 2 – 30 °C (36 – 86 °F). Protect from direct sunlight.

WARRANTY

BioControl Systems, Inc. (BCS) warrants this product to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, when stored under labeled conditions and used as intended until the expiration date stated on the package. BCS agrees during the applicable warranty period to replace all defective products after return to BCS. BCS shall not have obligation under this Limited Warranty to make replacements which result, in whole or in part, from negligence of the Buyer, or from improper use of the products, or use of the product in a manner for which it was not indicated. Buyer shall notify BCS of any products which it believes to be defective during the warranty period. At BCS option, such products shall be returned to BCS, transportation and insurance prepaid. BCS shall replace any such product found to be defective, at no charge. Should BCS examination not disclose any defect covered by the foregoing warranty, BCS shall so advise Buyers and dispose of the product in accordance with Buyer's instructions.

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