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# THE FAMILY COW RAW MILK LAB

*Placing Simple, Economical Food Safety “Test-and-Hold” protocol within the reach of every raw milk farmer.*

**Analog Incubator:** Order Item# 3055-80

Source: **Weber Scientific:** <http://www.weberscientific.com/lab-incubators-quincy-lab> **1-800-328-8378**

Cost: \$705

**Mini Light Box:** Order Item# F37864-3000 (The Light Box and Magnifier aid in reading test results)

Source: SP Bel-Art <https://www.belart.com/mini-led-light-box.html>

Cost: \$136

**Mini Magnifier:** Order Item# 3045-33

Source: **Weber Scientific** <https://www.weberscientific.com/mini-magnifier>

Cost: \$135

**Butterfield’s Buffer: (99ml buffered water)** Order Item# 3127-14 (for dilution of sample for SPC test)

Source: **Weber Scientific** <http://www.weberscientific.com/weber-db-sterilized-pre-filled-dilution-bottles>

Cost: \$.65 each (sold by case of 72)

**Transfer Pipets, 3 ml Sterile:** ( individually wrapped) Order Item# 3017-18

Source: **Weber Scientific** <http://www.weberscientific.com/disposable-transfer-pipets>

Cost: \$.13 per pipet (sold by case of 500)

**Coliform Count Petri Films:** Item# 6410

<https://nurnberg.com/3mtm-petrifilm-tm-coliform-count-plates-6416-1000-each-case370-0723.html>

Source: **Nurnberg Scientific** or **AquaPhoenix**

Cost: \$1.92 each (check shipping costs before ordering and try to find a fairly local supplier)

**SPC (Rapid Aerobic Count) Petri Film:** Item# 6478

<https://nurnberg.com/3mtm-petrifilm-tm-rapid-aerobic-count-plates-6479-500-each-case370-0735.html>

Source: **Nurnberg Scientific** or **AquaPhoenix**

Cost: \$1.82 each (check shipping costs before ordering and try to find a fairly local supplier)

## **NOTES:**

- Total cost for supplies needed to run both tests together is about \$4.
- The \$1,000 cost of the incubator and test reading supplies adds about \$1 per test if it depreciated over 5 years with 15 lots tested per month.
- The total labor to start tests, read tests and record results is about 15 minutes total for each testing.
- Electricity to run the incubator is minuscule.
- Attainable bench-marks for hygienic raw milk production are <3CC/ml and <2000 SPC/ml. At *The Family Cow* we often are often <half of this bench-mark. We start looking for the “The Why” and “The Fix” if our in-the-bottle numbers move above this. We test every lot we bottle.

Keep Safe!

Edwin Shank

*Founder: The Family Cow LLC, Chambersburg, PA*

*Owner: Shankstead EcoFarm*

*Advisory Board Member: RAWMI (Raw Milk Institute) [www.RawMilkInstitute.org](http://www.RawMilkInstitute.org)*