

Maine DMR Shellfish Growing Area Classification Program

Volunteer Certification Test

Please fill out and mail back to Angel Ripley
at The Department of Marine Resources, P.O. Box 8, West Boothbay Harbor, ME
04575-0008

Name _____ Date _____

1. **True or False- If the tide is too low to collect a sample on the scheduled day, I can get it the next day I am available at a higher tide.**
2. **True or False- If you are unable to collect your sample at the designated site, it is OK to collect it nearby as long as you are not more than 300 feet away.**
3. **True or False- You can transfer your samples to your own personal cooler or refrigerator before bringing it to a designated drop spot.**
4. **True or False- Aseptic technique is not important when the samples are being collected. It is only important when the samples are being processed in the lab.**
5. **True or False- You can use loose ice in your cooler if you don't have enough ice packs.**
6. **Chain of Custody is very important. What four things need to be entered, other than a signature, whenever samples are transferred or left for pick up?**

7. **True or False- If you have more than one field sheet, it is okay to fill in the Chain of Custody information only on the first sheet.**
8. **If sampling by boat, how close do you need to be to the station to take a sample?**
 - a. Does not matter
 - b. Within 300 feet from the mean high tide mark
 - c. Within 500 feet from the mean high tide mark
 - d. It is different for different tides
9. **At low tide, the minimum water depth for collecting a water sample is:**
 - a. 6"
 - b. 12"
 - c. 18"
 - d. Any depth, as long as you don't get mud in the bag.

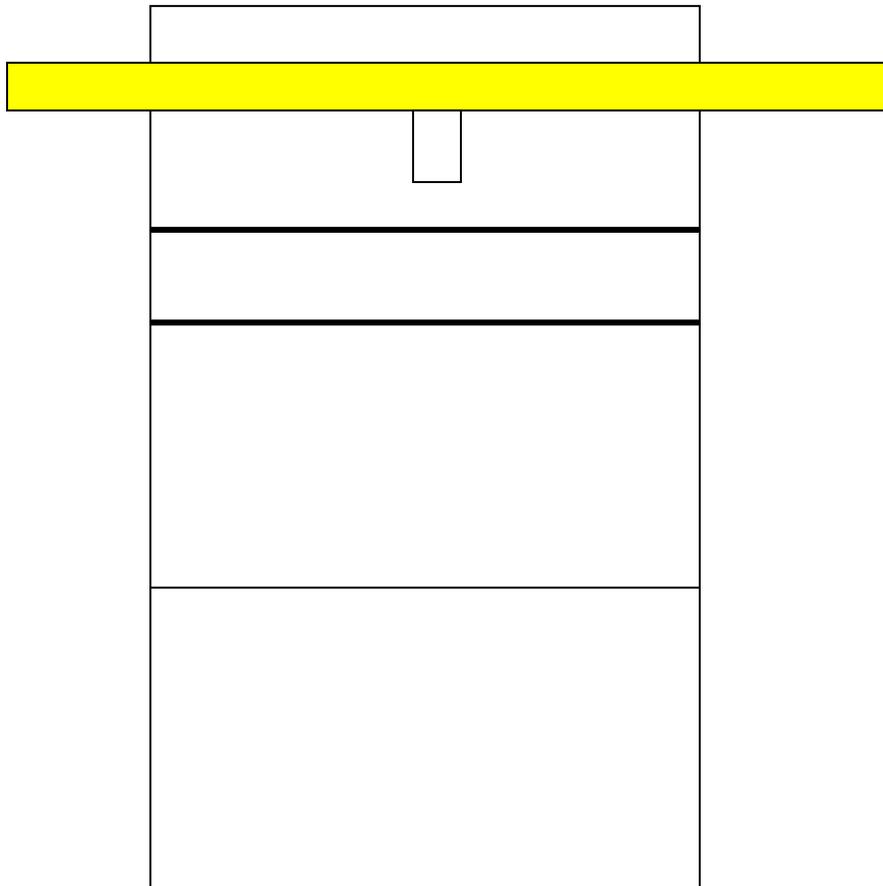
10. At high tide, the minimum water depth for collecting a water sample is:

- a. 6"
- b. 12"
- c. 18"
- d. Any depth, as long as you don't get mud in the bag.

11. True or False- The location of a sample site is defined by the mean high tide line and a GPS coordinate.

Please label the following bag properly using the following information:

Volunteer X sampled station WP100 on April 5th 2013 at three o'clock in the afternoon.



12. What is aseptic technique? Give one example of what you can do to follow this technique while sampling.

- 13. The field sheets can only be filled out in:**
- a. Pencil
 - b. Pen
 - c. Whatever you have handy at the time.
- 14. True or False: It is ok to send DMR photo copies of the real datasheets.**
- 15. True or False: If there is a safety hazard, like 100ft of soft mud between me and the sample or a sheet of ice before open water, I still have to walk out to collect the sample.**
- 16. True or False: If I am at a sample site and the water is >400 feet from mean high tide but is easy to get to and there is >18 inches of water depth available to sample in I can still get the sample.**
- 17. True or False: When collecting a sample in the winter, it is ok to scoop up some ice with your water sample.**
- 18. True or False: You can not leave samples in anything but a DMR-issued cooler/refrigerator.**
- 19. What four pieces of information must be recorded for every sample on your data sheet?**
- 20. Why do you trade out your thermometers when samples are dropped off at the different drop locations?**
- 21. If I get delayed and it looks like I won't be able to do the run when I know there is a minimum of 18" what should I do?**
- 22. If I see something in the field that I want to report or I have questions about the growing area, who should I contact?**
- 23. Yes or No- In the winter many of the sites that I sample are covered in ice. Should I collect the sample?**

30. If it starts raining lightly half way through your sampling run, you should:

- a. Record "P" in the adversity column for all stations
- b. Record "Rain started halfway through run" in the Remarks area
- c. Write nothing on the field sheet since the light rain just starting would not impact the sampling
- d. Record "P" in the adversity column for only those stations collected while it was raining and write "Light Rain" in the Comments column for each of those stations

31. If you collect a sample and realize after you get back to your vehicle that the bag is leaking, you should: [circle the letter(s) that apply]

- a. Pour the contents from the leaking bag into a new bag
- b. Go back down to the shore and collect another sample with the actual time you took the second sample
- c. Put the leaking bag into a Styrofoam cup and drive carefully
- d. Label another bag and aseptically pour the contents from the leaking bag into the new bag and record in the Comments column "First bag leaked; transferred to new bag"

32. If you see a few piles of goose droppings on your way down to the water to collect sample WN35, you should:

- a. Record "N" in the adversity column and write "Goose Poop" in the Comments column
- b. Don't write anything on the field sheet, because a few piles probably won't impact the water quality
- c. Write "goose poop in the remarks area on the datasheet
- d. Record "W" in the adversity column and write "goose poop within 200ft" in the Comments column with an approximate distance to the station

33. When you walk out 300 feet into a cove at an ebbing tide and the water is up to your ankles, you should:

- a. Reach out ahead of you to collect the sample in undisturbed water, even though it's only 4 inches deep
- b. Continue walking until the water is at least 6 inches deep before you sample, even if you have to go outside the cove
- c. Carefully drag the bag across the surface so as not to get any sediment in the sample
- d. Record "T" in the Missed Station column write down the station number and a time on the field sheet

34. What is the minimum depth of water you need to be standing in to take a sample?

- a. 12"
- b. 15"
- c. 6"
- d. 18"

35. How deep must the tongs when you take a water sample?

- a. 1-5"
- b. 2-6"
- c. 4"-10"
- d. 8"-12"

36. To what mark do you fill the sample bag?

- a. all the way to the top
- b. between the two bold fill lines
- c. one inch below the 100ml fill line.

37. What is the farthest distance you may collect a sample from the established sample site?

- a. 300 ft
- b. 300 yds
- c. 150 ft
- d. 75 ft

38. If you get to a station and the tide has gone out somewhat, do you go to the nearest stream channel or puddle on the flats to collect the sample?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. only on full moon tides
- d. only in closed areas

39. When is it appropriate to cancel a run?

- a. When family comes to visit
- b. When you have the flu
- c. When there is a state office closure day due to a storm
- d. When it is raining or it is a low tide in the morning
- e. Both b and c

37. Growing areas are classified using a combination of what components?

- a. Shoreline survey
- b. Samples
- c. Data analysis
- d. Report writing
- e. All of the above

38. Yes or No- Is it appropriate to dip the bag multiple times in order to get enough water for the 100ml sample? If not what would be done differently?

39. What two items are to be left at a pick up location along with your samples?

40. Please fill in the chain of custody below as if you have just come from the field with 25 samples on May 25th 2011, the cooler temperature is at 8° and are leaving them at the Sag. Comm. Center in Bath for pick up.

Relinquished by:	Date, Time & Temp	#Samples	Relinquished to:	Received by:	Date, Time & Temp
Circle water Quality Lab:	Boothbay Lab		Lamoine Lab		