

**United States Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service, Science & Technology  
Microbiological Data Program**

SOP NO.: MDP-ADMIN-01		Page 1 of 5
Title: Facilities		
Revision: Original	Replaces: N/A	Effective: 08/15/03

**1. Purpose:**

To standardize and ensure adequate sampling and laboratory testing facilities for the operation of the USDA/AMS Microbiological Data Program (MDP).

**2. Scope:**

This standard operating procedure (SOP) shall be followed by all laboratories conducting microbiological studies for MDP, including support laboratories conducting non-routine activities that may impact the program.

**3. Outline of Procedure:**

- 5.1 Facilities for Handling Test, Control, and Reference Substances
- 5.2 Specimen and Data Storage Facilities
- 5.3 Inspection of Facilities

**4. References:**

- U.S. EPA, Inspection of a testing facility, 40 CFR part 160.15, July 1, 1999
- U.S. EPA, Facilities for handling test, control, and reference substances, 40 CFR part 160.47, July 1, 1999
- U.S. EPA, Laboratory operation areas, 40 CFR part 160.49, July 1, 1999
- U.S. EPA, Specimen and data storage facilities, 40 CFR part 160.51, July 1, 1999

**5. Specific Procedures:**

5.1 Facilities for Handling Test, Control, and Reference Substances

Adequate space shall be provided for the conduct of sampling and analytical laboratory work performed for MDP. Space shall be as needed to prevent contamination or mix-ups of samples, reference materials, and other work in place in the facility.

5.2 Specimen and Data Storage Facilities

Space shall be provided for archives, limited to access by authorized personnel only, for the storage and retrieval of all raw data from the study.

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5.3 Inspection of Facilities

A sampling or laboratory facility shall permit an authorized employee or duly designated representative of USDA/AMS, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, to inspect the facility and to inspect (and in the areas of records to copy) all records and samples required to be maintained regarding MDP.





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