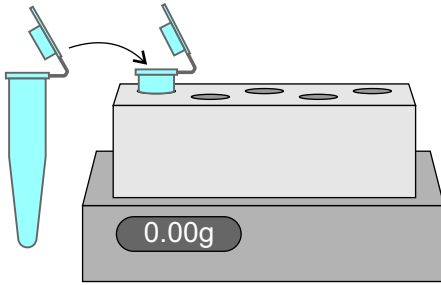


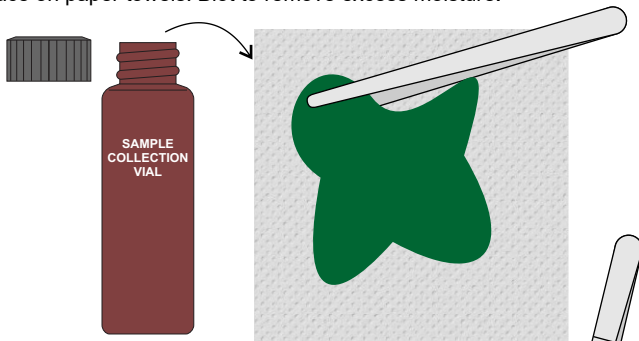
1. Set scale to ZERO

Unfold the cardboard vial holder from the sample extraction kit and place on the portable scale. Place one sample extraction tube into the vial holder and press the "tare" button to bring displayed weight to "0.00 g".



2. Remove sample and blot

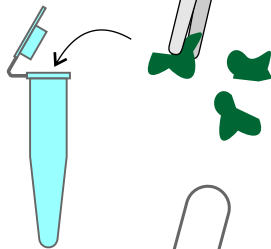
Remove the benthic mat sample from the amber vial and place on paper towels. Blot to remove excess moisture.



3. Transfer sample pieces

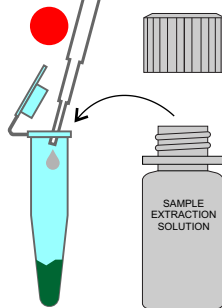
Remove small pieces of the mat material from throughout the sample (a total of 0.25 g) and place into the sample extraction tube.

NOTE: Tweezers must be cleaned with 10% bleach solution and rinsed with water after each use and gloves must be cleaned or changed if they come into contact with benthic mat sample or water that is removed during blotting of sample to prevent cross-contamination of extraction/testing materials or samples which can cause inaccurate test results.



4. Add extraction solution

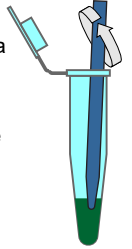
Using a graduated pipette from bag with red sticker, add 0.5 mL of the Benthic Mat Extraction Solution to the tube with benthic mat sample, being careful to avoid touching the sample or the tube with the pipette to prevent cross contamination.



5. Grind sample and solution

Using a clean disposable pestle, thoroughly grind the sample and extraction solution for 4 minutes, using caution to not spill from the tube. When thoroughly ground, the sample will have a thin, mud-like appearance, with no large mat pieces visible in the solution.

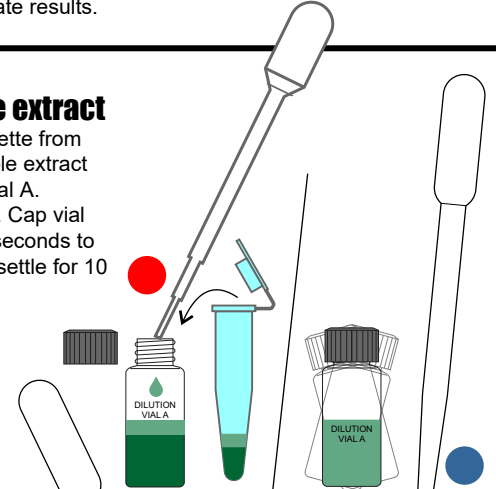
NOTE: If sample or extraction solution overflows from the tube during extraction, wipe the tube with a paper towel saturated with 10% bleach solution and clean or change gloves to prevent personal contact with Anatoxin-a, which can cause harm, or cross-contamination of extraction/testing materials that can produce inaccurate results.



6. Transfer sample extract

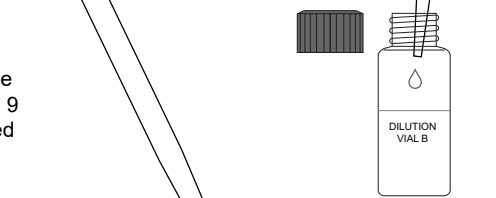
Using the disposable pipette from step 4, transfer the sample extract from step 5 to Dilution Vial A.

Discard pipette after use. Cap vial tightly and shake for 30 seconds to thoroughly mix. Allow to settle for 10 minutes.



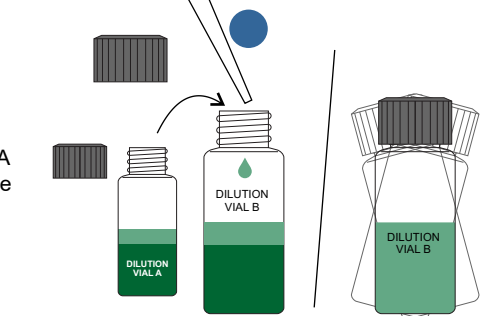
7. Add water

Using a disposable graduated pipette from the bag with blue sticker, add 9 mL of distilled or deionized water to Dilution Vial B.



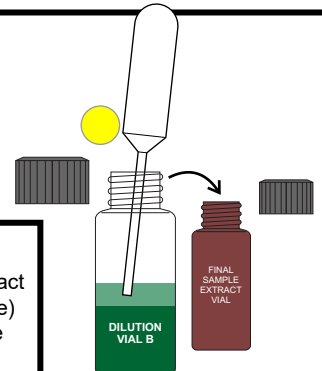
8. Transfer

Using the disposable graduated pipette from step 7, transfer 1 mL of the upper liquid in the sample extract from Vial A into Vial B. Discard pipette after use. Cap tightly and shake for 30 seconds to thoroughly mix. Allow sample to settle for 10 minutes.



9. Transfer

Using a transfer pipette from the bag with the yellow sticker, transfer the upper liquid portion of the extract from Vial B into a clean, labeled amber Final Extract vial.



10. Analyze

Analyze the diluted benthic mat sample extract from the Final Extract vial (from step 9 above) as described in section E (Test Strip Sample Analysis Procedure) of the user's guide.