

# **Biotechnology People Can Use**

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Previously sold as CM-NTK-200 Series (Citizen Monitoring NTK)

SKU: NTK-WLR-(05, 10, 25, 50 depending on kit size)

# **Water Nitrate Test Kit Instructions**

Low Range (0.01 ppm - 2.0 ppm Nitrate-N)

# Introduction

This kit contains everything you need to test ambient, unimpaired environmental water samples for nitrate content. We have provided in this kit a 1 ppm Nitrate-N standard (D). This is to ensure that your kit is working properly and to use as a reference tool when analyzing the color of your samples.

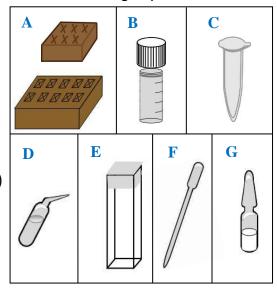
After comparing your samples with the nitrate standard and the color chart, you will have a value that determines the nitrate content of your water sample. Although we cannot guarantee the precision that you would expect from a water testing lab, you will get accurate results immediately about the nitrate content of your water that you can use for making preliminary decisions about use and further testing of your water.

## Kit Contents (per 5 samples):

- A. 2 cardboard tube/cuvette holders
- **B.** 5 clear sample collection tubes with white screw caps
- C. 5 clear *snap cap* aliquots (contains buffer)
- D. 1 clear snip off squeeze bulb containing nitrate standard
- E. 6 square reaction cuvettes in sealed foil pouch (contains enzyme)
- **F.** 5 plastic pipettes (for transferring each sample to reaction cuvettes)
- G. 6 clear glass tubes of color reagent powder (in bubble wrap bag)

### Materials you will need:

- Marker for labeling tubes and cuvette caps
- Scissors (to remove tip from *snip off* squeeze bulb)
- Pen (for recording data on data sheet)



#### DO:

- ✓ Store this kit in a cool and dark place (below 72°F/22°C), refrigerate if possible
- ✓ Test water samples soon after collection
- ✓ Run tests and standard all at once to ensure accuracy
- ✓ Label collected sample tubes and reaction cuvettes accordingly
- ✓ Gently shake cuvettes several times throughout reaction without inverting them.

#### DO NOT:

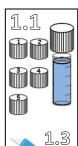
- \*Open sealed packets or mix cuvette contents until ready to use
- \*Add more than *one drop* of sample water to reaction cuvette
- \*Compare samples to color chart before waiting at least 10 minutes
- \*Invert reaction cuvettes when mixing or get liquid in the cap portion before step 4



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## Procedure

#### Step 1 Collecting Your Samples

- 1) Collect approximately 5mL of water in each sample collection tube. Recap the tubes and label caps. (1.1)
- 2) Place aliquots in small cardboard holder. Label caps. Record location and numbers on data sheet provided.
- 3) Use a pipette to transfer 0.25mL (first graduation from the tip) sample to corresponding aliquot. (1.3)
- 4) Repeat for each sample, using a new pipette for each. Aliquots should contain 1 mL liquid. Cap and mix.



#### Step 2 Preparing the Nitrate Standard

- 1) Remove the 6 square reaction cuvettes from the foil pouch and place them in the large cardboard holder, keeping the one with the blue dot separate from the others (this is for your nitrate standard).
- 2) Tap cuvettes to settle contents making sure to keep them upright to not lose contents.
- 3) Snip off the end of the standard squeeze bulb and empty the entire contents into the cuvette with the blue dot. This is the *nitrate standard*. (2.3)
- **4)** Let this cuvette develop for at least 10 minutes, gently mixing every few minutes. Continue to step 3 while cuvette develops.



## Step 3 Adding samples to Reaction Cuvettes

- 1) Label the cuvette caps with numbers, letters, or location to match the data sheet. (1-5, A-E, etc.)
- 2) Empty entire contents of each snap cap aliquot to each corresponding cuvette. (3.2)
- 3) Recap the cuvettes and mix by gently shaking side to side. Do not invert.
- 4) Let set for at least 10 minutes, mixing gently every few minutes.



#### Step 4 Color development

- 1) Tap each glass tube to settle powder; snap off top at score line in neck (4.1).
- 2) Add color reagent powder to all reaction cuvettes, including the nitrate standard. (4.2)
- 3) Firmly seal the cuvettes with square caps and vigorously mix each cuvette rapidly.
- **4)** Let cuvettes develop color for about 5 minutes, mixing them several times to dissolve most of the powder. Some powder may settle to the bottom of tube; this is okay.



## Step 5 Evaluating your results

After color development, compare your results within one hour using the nitrate standard and this chart or download NECi's free color slider application for mobile devices. The nitrate standard is set at 1 part per million Nitrate-N (1 ppm Nitrate-N). Unimpaired waters should be no higher than 2ppm Nitrate-N. Color will remain stable for a few days.



Search for "Nitrate Color Slider" in your application store to download NECi's free app. Tap the screen once downloaded to toggle to the "environmental water" screen. Slide the white circle along the line below the color block to analyze your sample.



NECi's Color Slider is also available on your web based browser at www.nitrate.com/nitratecolorslider