



Delvotest® Frequently Asked Questions

Getting Started

This is the first time I am using the test, how do I do it?

Instructions are included with each test kit. If you need additional instructions or they were not provided, please contact a Nelson-Jameson product specialist.

Do I need to use controls?

Controls must be used by farms that are using the Delvotest® P test for NCIMS/FDA purposes. Otherwise, you do not need to run controls.

See: [SPNT Procedure and Delvotest® P Procedure](#)

What is the procedure for making sure your incubator temp is correct?

See: [Delvotest® Incubator Instructions for Use](#)

How do I program the incubator?

See: [Delvotest® Incubator Instructions for Use](#)

My incubator is saying it is 59°, how do I get it to 64°C ±2°C?

See: [Delvotest® Incubator Instructions for Use](#)

What do I do if my certified thermometer is reading way lower than the incubator temp is reading?

You may need to recalibrate.

See: [Temperature Calibration Instructions](#). Recalibrate the incubator as needed.

Do I need a thermometer in my incubator, and if so what kind?

For NCIMS use, you do need a thermometer for your incubator. It must be traceable to a NIST calibrated thermometer (511-3340). Dial thermometers cannot be used.

Is the pipette exactly 1 mL, and how do I know I am getting the right amount of sample?

The test requires 0.1 mL of milk, so it is best to use the pipettes included in the test kit. Using too much milk makes the test more sensitive. Using less milk will lead to positive results as there is not enough milk for the test to work properly.

General Questions

What antibiotics does the test detect?

The SP-NT test detects virtually all antibiotics. Contact a product specialist at Nelson-Jameson for the most updated list.

What test should I use?

- If NCIMS is not needed, SP-NT will work great for most farms. (233-3424 BFC, 233-3148 BFC). If Tetracycline is an issue, we suggest Delvotest® T (233-3545 BFC, 233-3301 BFC).
- If NCIMS is needed for on farm testing, we suggest you order Delvotest® P with controls and a thermometer (233-3006 BFC, 233-3004 BC, 233-3005 BC, 511-3340).
- If NCIMS is needed for Section 6 testing, you will need the Delvotest® P 5 Pack (233-3480 BFC).

Have you verified the temperature of your incubator?

The temperature of your Delvotest® incubator must be 64°C ±2°C to produce accurate results. Use a digital or spirit filled stick thermometer to verify that your incubator is heating to the correct temperature. The small holes in the middle of the block are made for this. If the temperature is off, adjust accordingly.

Have you put the correct amount of milk into the sample well?

Delvotest® requires that a specific amount of milk be added to the test medium for accurate results. Using a fresh disposable pipette, add the milk into the pipette by squeezing the smaller upper bulb once, hold it, dip the pipette tip about 1 cm into the milk sample. Release pressure on the bulb and the pipette stem will fill itself with the appropriate volume (0.1 mL) of milk.





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General Questions, Continued

Have you allowed for the correct amount of time to produce results?

Delvotest® requires a specific amount of time in the incubator to achieve accurate results. Delvotest® SP-NT should be incubated at 64°C ±2°C for 3 hours, and Delvotest® T should be in the incubator for 3 hours and 15 minutes before reading results. It is best to set a timer, to ensure results are accurate and reliable.

What does NCIMS stand for?

National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments

Shelf-Life

Has my Delvotest® expired or how do I know if my kit is still okay to use?

Each test kit has an expiration date listed. If it has passed its expiration date, the test may give you inaccurate results. Please discard the old test kit and use a new one.

What happens when my Delvotest® Kit has been exposed to extreme heat and freezing conditions?

Delvotest® must be stored where it is protected from extreme heat and freezing conditions. Exposure to extreme heat shortens the expiration date of the test. Freezing ruins the test and you will get positive results. If your test kit has been exposed to extreme temperatures or frozen, please discard and use a new test kit. Be sure to keep your test kits in a refrigerator and not in the same area where your antibiotics are stored.

My test was delivered when I wasn't home, and was not refrigerated for a few hours. Is it still good?

Most likely yes. An easy way to check is to run a known antibiotic free milk sample. If the color changes in the normal amount of time, the test is good. Long exposure at room temperature may decrease the shelf life.

Shelf-Life, Continued

I ordered my Delvotest®, and it took 4 days to get here. Is it still okay to use?

Most likely it is, as long as it was not frozen. If you are unsure and want to ensure the test is okay to use, run a control (a sample of known negative milk) to confirm. If the test turns yellow, it is okay to use.

My items were frozen when I received them. Will they still work, or are they no longer usable?

The answer is no, the test is no longer good to use. Check for a large number of purple drops on the side of the tube above the gel in the bottom. The presence of the drops means the test has been frozen, and is now compromised.

Note: Extreme cold would be any factors that cause the kit to freeze (32°F or below). Extreme heat would be anything 100°F or above.

Understanding Results

The test is complete, and the sample well ampoule turned yellow. What does that mean?

Good news, you have negative test results! The Delvotest® determined that there was not a detectable level of drug residue.

The test is complete, and the sample well ampoule stayed purple. What does that mean?

It could mean two things:

- The milk contains an inhibitor, most likely an antibiotic.
- You could have a bad test kit, which can be due to shelf life, if it was frozen at some point, or abused in some way. It is easy to determine if the test has been compromised. Run a known negative sample as a control. If it turns yellow, the kit is working properly and now you know you have an inhibitor present in your milk sample.

