

**AGAT** Laboratories 

# Tips for Packing Your Sample Cooler

Here are 10 cooler packing tips to help you protect your samples from damage and maintain sample temperatures within the regulatory required range of 0-10° Celsius

- 1. Use Natural Ice:** Natural ice is the best choice for keeping your samples cold.
- 2. Ice Packs:** Do not use natural ice to cool samples in either a plastic bag or TD tubes. Use frozen ice packs.
- 3. Fill the Cooler:** Ice should occupy at least one-third of the cooler's space.
- 4. Avoid Dry Ice:** Never use dry ice. It creates a safety hazard and may result in compromised sample integrity by freezing samples solid and/or shattering sample bottles/ jars.”
- 5. Seal Containers Properly:** Ensure each container is tightly sealed or placed in water-tight plastic bags (preferably bubble bags) to prevent water damage to the samples and labels.
- 6. Use Bubble Wrap:** Bubble bags or bubble wrap are ideal for glass containers. The trapped air provides extra insulation to keep samples cold and adds cushioning.
- 7. Isolate Each Container:** Separate each sample container with non-absorbent packing material to prevent glass containers from breaking.
- 8. Positioning of Containers:** Do not stack glass containers or lay them on their sides.
- 9. Pre-Chill Samples:** If samples are above ambient temperature when collected, place them in an ice bath for a few minutes before packing.
- 10. Use AGAT Coolers:** AGAT coolers are selected for their superior insulation specifications.

For further tips on avoiding sampling flags, please contact your **Customer Service Representative**.