Biodiesel Field Test Instructions



Test for Water and Visual Clarity

This two-part test consists of 1) a visual inspection of the fuel, and 2) the addition of a water indicator solution to the fuel sample.

1- Visual Inspection Instructions

- 1. Remove a sample of biodiesel fuel and place it in a clean and dry container. It is critical that this container be clean and dry to remove traces of water. Information on sampling procedures and equipment is available at http://www.fleetbiodiesel.com.
- 2. Open the FT-0100 Test Kit bottle and remove the small tube of water indicator solution inside.
- 3. Fill the Test Kit bottle to the top of the Test Kit label with the fuel sampled in Step 1. Replace the cap and tighten it securely.
- 4. Shake the Test Kit bottle 15 seconds, and then let the sample settle for approximately one minute.
- 5. Closely examine the sample in good light. Hold the sample bottle upright at eye level. There is a small chart printed on the inside back of the bottle's label. Count how many of the oval bars you can see through the fuel. **Record the result in your Biodiesel Quality Management log.**

Note: DO NOT DISPOSE OF THE TESTED FUEL SAMPLE; it will be used in the next test.

Interpreting the results

Your fuel should be clear and bright, and you should be able to see all of the bars on the chart and be able to read the numbers within the ovals. You should not see floating particles in your fuel. Cloudiness may indicate the presence of water, glycerin, mold, or other contaminants. If you can not see at least three ovals (in Step 6), then you should consider doing a Microbial Field Test, or send a fuel sample for laboratory testing.



2- Water Indicator Instructions

- 1. Vigorously shake the small tube of water indicator for 20 seconds or until the fluid is completely mixed.
- 2. Open the cap of the Test Kit bottle containing the previously tested fuel sample and pour in the contents of the small tube.
- 3. Replace and tighten the cap, and vigorously shake the contents for 15 seconds.
- 4. Let the sample stand for about 5 minutes.



5. Holding the bottle upright at eye level, examine the bottom of Test Kit bottle.

Interpreting the results

You will see particulates from the water indicator settling on the bottom of the bottle. If they are turning RED and you see a layer of red settled on the bottom, you have water in your fuel. If it remains white, then your fuel should be roughly within the ASTM specification for water.



Background Information

The Fleet Biodiesel Field Test Kits are intended to provide a rapid, easy, and effective method to test Biodiesel fuel and Biodiesel fuel blends (e.g. B5, B20) for basic quality. They are THRESHOLD detector kits and do not provide a quantitative (numerical) result. These tests indicate when a key indicator has reached a level where the fuel itself is very likely to be out-of-spec and requires further testing. The threshold levels (good vs. questionable fuel) are modeled on the ASTM D6751 quality standards, but their levels of sensitivity are not sufficient to assure either a pass or fail for these quantitative tests.

Disclaimer and Warranty

All Fleet Biodiesel Field Test and Lab Tests are offered only as general indicators of fuel quality. All commercial tests – even analytical tests performed according to ASTM specifications – are subject to error due to sampling techniques, unique fuel attributes, and statistical anomaly. Failed test should be verified by repetition or more detailed analytical testing. Fleet Biodiesel warranties that the test kits provided are modeled after industry best-practices and existing ASTM standards. No other warranties, either expressed or implied, are made regarding the accuracy of the tests or the quality of fuel that is tested.