

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Sedgewick Rafter Counting Chambers

Instructions for use



The Sedgewick Rafter Counting Cell Slide was designed specifically for the quantitative measurement of the exact number of particles in a precise volume of a fluid. The Sedgewick Rafter counting cells are used widely in water analysis, culture inspection and for any other fluid where particles per unit volume must be determined. They are offered in both glass and plastic construction; both function the same way.

The cell can be used with either living or preserved material. To fill the cell, place the cover glass across the chamber top (Fig A). This allows the air bubbles to escape during the filling procedure. The sample is then taken into a 1ml wide mouthed pipette and then carefully transferred to the chamber. Do not overfill the chamber, because the volume of the sample in the chamber must be known exactly and the cover glass must not float free, but held onto the cell walls by surface tension. During counting, water may evaporate from the chamber. To prevent gas bubble formation, a small drop of distilled water may be placed on the slide outside the cell, just touching the cell wall and cover glass. Before the cell count is made the Sedgewick-Rafter chamber should be allowed to stand for at least 15 minutes to allow algae, or other particles, to settle to the bottom. The Grid Pattern in the base of the chamber assists the counting and calculation process, by clearly defining a known sample volume in 1µl blocks Counting in strips is easier, no need to use reticle grids or know the precise area of your field of view.

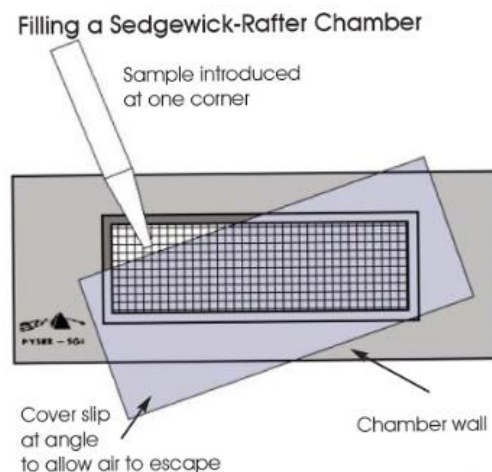


Fig A

To clean the counting chamber: After completing the count, remove the cover glass and clean the counting chamber with water or a mild cleaning solution (10% solution of bleach). Dry the counting chamber with a soft cloth or wipe, or rinse with acetone.

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