



SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY

Biological Materials (BSL-1) Safety Practices

A tutorial for interpreting this category
on the lab safety checklist

BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS *



| | | | |
|--|---|---|-----|
| 1. A sink for hand washing is available and accessible in the lab. | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 2. BIOWASTE TAGS: A completed, blue, BIOWASTE tag is affixed to each biological waste collection container to provide required information on the generator and contents. | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 3. Biological waste collection containers are not overfilled, spilling over, or leaking. | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 4. BSL-1 WASTE: Non-biohazardous, biological wastes are collected in clear autoclave bags without a biohazard symbol. | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 5. BSL-1 WASTE: Biological waste collection containers are labeled as "BSL-1" or "Non-biohazardous" Since these wastes are not biohazardous, they must not not have a biohazard symbol on their container. | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 6. BSL-1 WASTE: The 30-day storage limit is not exceeded. (see bio-waste tag or label) | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 7. BSL-1 Animal tissues, organs, and carcasses are stored in leak-proof, closed containers. (This is not "waste" while still needed for teaching or research purposes.) | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |
| 8. BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS - OTHER | ✘ | ✓ | N/A |

Question 1.

A sink for hand washing is available and accessible in the lab.

- Labs where *experiments and/or classes are conducted must have at least one sink for handwashing available;*
- *Not all rooms in a group necessarily need to each have a sink; If the spaces in a group are connected, one having a sink in one room would suffice.*
- *Offices, breakrooms and cold-rooms do not need a sink.*

Question 2.

BIOWASTE TAGS: A completed blue BIOWASTE tag is affixed to each biological waste collection container to provide required identification of the generator and contents.

- For this category, we are only looking at BSL-1 (non-hazardous, biological materials);
- BIOWASTE tag must be filled out properly as all information is essential for assessment;
- Absence of BIOWASTE tag in containers with BSL-1 is a common issue.

BIO-WASTE

BSL-1 (Non-hazardous)

Accumulation Time Limit: **30 DAYS** at room temperature

Describe material

Accumulation Start Date

Generator Lab _____

Building/Room _____

Contact Phone _____

Preparer _____

Biological Waste Identification Tag

Question 2 Notes

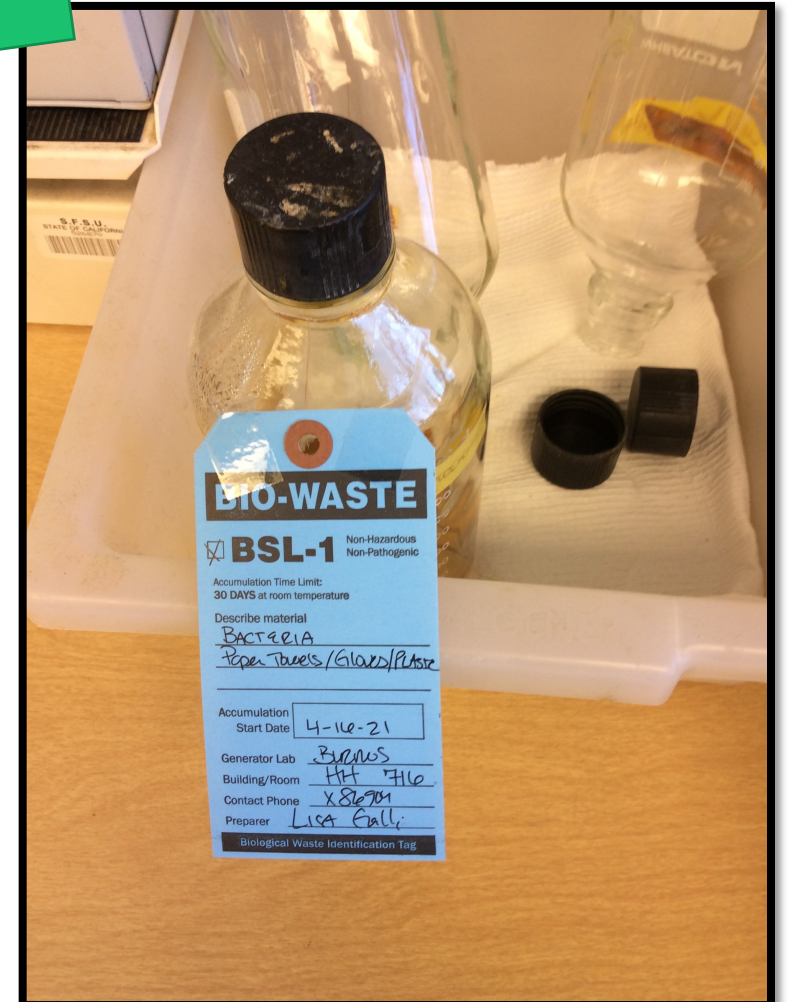
NOT COMPLIANT

COMPLIANT



This label is useful to designate the type of biowaste it should hold. BUT it is not a substitute for the blue tag.

- All BSL-1 must have a properly filled BIOWASTE tag attached to it, unless container is not being used.
- The BIOWASTE tag is essential as it allows lab members, EHS inspectors, and others to identify the materials present, the start accumulation date, and who's responsible for that BSL-1 waste.



Question 3.

Biological waste collection containers are not overfilled, spilling over, or leaking.

- BSL-1 containers do not need to have lid;
- Containers must be in good shape;
- Containers must not be overfilled, spilling over or leaking.

This is compliant



Question 4.

BSL-1 WASTE: Non-biohazardous, biological wastes are collected in clear autoclave bags without a biohazard symbol.

- Do not use regular office trash bags for lab waste.
- Autoclave bags (and clear lab waste bags) are thicker than regular trash liners and less likely to tear open.
- Collect BSL-1 waste in **clear** autoclave bags with no biohazard symbols.

BSL-1 lab waste containers must NOT be lined with red biohazard bags! If you see this, mark it as not in compliance.



Question 4 Notes

Collect BSL-1 waste in **clear** autoclave bags with no biohazard symbols.

- Clear bags purchased for collecting hazardous waste may be used if the waste will not be autoclaved.

This is not compliant for BSL-1 waste.





Question 6.

BSL-1 WASTE: The 30-day storage limit is not exceeded. (see bio-waste tag or label)

- Check for BIOWASTE tag to verify start accumulation date. If the start date is more than 30 days past the inspection date, it should have been disposed, regardless of being full or not;
- If a container does not have a BIOWASTE tag, this item should be marked as not-compliant as well, because we can't verify the start accumulation date.

Let's look at an example on the next slide

Question 6 Example

BIO-WASTE

BSL-1 (Non-hazardous)

BSL-2 (Biohazardous)
Examples: Sharps, Blood, Animal Tissue
Pathogenic organisms, and other
Medical and Pathology waste

Describe material
*petri plates, tips, plant material,
tubes, swabs, tape labels*

Generator Lab *He Lab*

Building/Room *HH 616*

Contact # *Ext. 50365*

Preparer *C. Ibarra*

Accumulation Start Date *7/17/18*

Biological Waste Identification Tag

Contact # _____

Preparer *C. Ibarra*

Accumulation Start Date *7/17/18*

Biological Waste Identification Tag

- This item was inspected on April 30th of 2021
- It is possible that they simply have not updated the BIOWASTE tag, however, it should still be marked as non-compliant.

Question 7.

BSL-1 animal tissues, organs, and carcasses are stored in leak-proof, closed containers.

- As long as these materials are still needed for teaching or research purposes, they are not “waste”.
- The containers must be labeled with contents and owner, but do not need a blue waste tag while “in use” status.
- The waste storage requirements are enforced when they are stored and ready for disposal.



This is compliant.

8. BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS - OTHER

- Any other item not addressed in previous questions should be reported here;
- The issue should be described in detail in the notes; A suggestion can also be made in the notes;
- If nothing to report here, mark N/A.

