

2.3.3 Refrigeration

- 2 lightweight but rigid plastic coolers, each of 2.7 cubic feet (45 litre) capacity (outside dimensions approximately 14" X 24" X 14") were used (Coleman Model 5286L Cooler, Canadian Coleman Company Ltd., Toronto, Canada). These were of sufficient yet manageable size. The lid's flush-mounted latch system was considered unlikely to be broken during handling. The cooler could not be locked, and other security measures were devised using a number of luggage straps. Tape and labels would not adhere to the outer surface, and so indelible markers were used to label the containers as necessary.
- 16 polyethylene "Freeze Paks" (Reliance Products Ltd., Winnipeg, Canada) -- 5 lb. capacity, of the type that you fill with water, screw on cap and freeze -- were chosen over other possibilities after testing. In addition, the empty packs were found to be lightweight and collapsible, facilitating transport to the sampling area (as well as dropping off refills at points to be picked up on the return trip). Furthermore, when empty they made good packing material around fragile items.
- Note that during preliminary testing, it was determined that seven such ice packs in a cooler (standing at room temperature of 22°C) provided more than adequate chilling capability for a period of 72 hours plus (even though the cooler was opened for short periods after 24, 48 and 56 hours).

2.3.4 Miscellaneous Equipment

Additional items such as extra luggage straps, markers, labels, special note pads and log books, latex gloves and plastic sample bags were packed in the two coolers for the outward trip.