

Participants in the 2023 Aggregate Degradation Sample Program,

The 2023 Aggregate Degradation Proficiency Samples 3 (A) and 4 (B) are currently being processed and packaged for shipping. Please take note of the following dates and deadlines associated with these samples:

Shipping Date: January 19th, 2023

Immediately after the shipping date, please log in to the AASHTO re:source website to track your packages. From the "My Lab" page, click "Packages" in the left hand column of the page. Please note that the packages are not shipped simultaneously. Delivery of your packages will most likely occur on different days and may not arrive in order (Box 2 may arrive before Box 1).

Upon receipt of the samples, please open the boxes and ensure that all contents are included. If the samples are seriously damaged or missing a component, please notify us immediately and we will send replacements. If you do not, we cannot guarantee that samples will be available with enough time for testing to be completed.

The outside of the sample boxes are labeled samples 3(A) and 4(B). The bags inside the boxes are labeled only (A) or (B). The bag labeled (A) is sample 3. The bag labeled (B) is sample 4.

Datasheets, instructions, and SDSs will be available for this sample on our website beginning on **January 19th, 2023**. They can be found by using the following link:

<http://www.aashtoresource.org/psp/datasheets-and-instructions>

To view a video and description of the samples you will receive, please use the following link:

[Unboxing AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample: Aggregate Degradation 3 4 - YouTube](#)

Non-Receipt Date: February 2nd, 2023

If you have not received the samples by the non-receipt date or if the samples are seriously damaged, or missing a component please notify us immediately and we will send replacements.

Closing Date: March 16th, 2023

We encourage you to submit your results online, as soon as possible. This enables you to receive instant confirmation of data submitted and revise data if needed. Test results received after the closing date will not be included in the final report.

Final Report Date: March 30th, 2023

AASHTO re:source will provide a final report approximately two weeks after the closing date. Individual laboratory reports will be provided by logging onto the AASHTO re:source website. Laboratories will be notified by email when the final report becomes available.

Of course, confidentiality of individual laboratory results will be maintained. However, general information regarding the round of testing, such as statistical summary tables and Youden scatter diagrams associated with the analysis of data, will be provided to the public on the AASHTO re:source website.

Testing Note

AASHTO Accredited laboratories are required to perform every test included in the AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program that is also listed under each laboratory's AASHTO Accreditation. The tests that are not listed under the laboratory's accreditation may also be performed, but testing is not required, and the AASHTO Accreditation Program will not evaluate the ratings.

For each test performed please report the result of a single determination only, not the average of two or more, except in cases where an average is called for in the method or specification. The program is designed to obtain two independent test results, one for each numbered sample, for each test method that the laboratory chooses to perform.

To permit an estimate of single-operator precision, the same operator should conduct an individual test on both samples. It is not necessary that the same person conduct all of the tests.

Treat each sample as you would treat a typical "testing" sample. Any special handling or preparation needs will be included below or within the Sample Instructions Document.

Special Instructions/New Test Methods

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

NOTE: The following steps should be taken in handling and preparing the samples.

1. Oven-dry the material at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ($230 \pm 9^\circ\text{F}$) before testing is begun.
2. Wash and dry the material in accordance with AASHTO T11/ASTM C117
3. Separate the material into size fractions by sieving in accordance with the sample masses specified in the test methods or as described in these instructions.

NEW TEST METHOD(S):

Coarse Aggregate Soundness by Freezing and Thawing, AASHTO T103-08(2021): Perform the tests for coarse aggregates using two gradations. The first sample gradation shall total 1000 ± 10 g of material (19.0 mm to the 9.5 mm) and the second sample gradation shall total 300 ± 5 g of material (9.5 mm to the 4.75 mm) (**AASHTO Table 3**). Select Procedure A, B, or C to perform the test. Please indicate which procedure was followed on the Data Sheet. Perform 25 freeze-thaw cycles on both gradations for this round. For the Quantitative Examination (Section 8), report the percent loss (passing) from the original sample mass. The 1000 ± 10 g sample shall be sieved over the 8.0 mm (5/16-in) sieve and the 300 ± 5 g sample shall be sieved over the 4.0 mm (No. 5) sieve. Report the percent passing for each sample to the nearest 0.1 percent. **Do NOT compute the weighted average or weighted percentage loss.**

A complete sample schedule is available online:

<http://www.aashtoresource.org/psp/schedule>

Please contact AASHTO re:source at psp@ashtoresource.org or call 240-436-4900 if there are questions.

Sincerely,
John J. Malusky
Program Supervisor
AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program