

**HANDLING *Simulium vittatum* EGGS**

## Shipping:

1. Eggs are deposited on wetted cloth (the egg-sheet) as part of the oviposition process within the BFR2 rearing facility. Pieces of the egg-sheet containing the deposited eggs are placed in Petri dishes on damp paper towels and Petri dishes are sealed closed with Parafilm®.
2. Petri dishes containing the eggs are shipped in a Styrofoam cooler with blue ice to keep the eggs cool during shipping.

## Procedure Upon Arrival:

1. Upon arrival, open the shipping package and immediately remove the Petri dish.
2. Open the petri dish and make sure the pieces of egg-sheet are on the bottom of the Petri dish and the paper towel beneath the egg-sheet is damp.
3. The eggs should be immersed in 20°C to 22°C water to initiate the hatching process. The Petri dish and eggs can be stored in refrigeration (4°C to 8°C) for a short period, but viability will decrease the longer they remain in storage.
4. The receiving laboratory will need some type of larval rearing apparatus such as bubblers, stir-bar and beaker, gyratory shaker or a flowing water system. It is recommended to use a flowing water system for rearing black flies through a complete life cycle.