

**VMP 991-235**  
**Parasite Control in Sustainable/Organic Agriculture**

**McMaster's Quantitation Technique**

Use:

Utilized to quantify intestinal Helminth ova expelled in feces.

Procedure:

1. Fill McMaster's Graduated Vial (clear vial with 2 lines) to the bottom line with flotation solution (= 26 mls).
2. Add feces, about 4 gm, until the fluid level rises to the top line.
3. Pour this mixture into a clean beaker and mix thoroughly.
4. Pour mixture through a strainer into a 2<sup>nd</sup> clean beaker.
5. Withdraw a small amount of the well-mixed, strained suspension with a pipette and load this into the McMaster's counting chamber.
6. Wait 2-3 minutes for eggs to rise to the top of the chamber.
7. Focus on the lines of the McMaster's chamber with 4X, then examine the chamber with 10X. (Scan for ova).
8. Examine the entire ruled area, counting all the eggs within the ruled areas
9. Add the total egg from each side of the chamber.
10. Multiply the sum of the 2 chambers by 25 to determine the eggs per gram (epg).
11. Note: The McMaster's Quantitation Techniques is mainly for the quantitation of Strongyle-type ova, thus only strongyle-type eggs should be counted. However, a general idea (i.e. none, few, many...) of the number of other nematode ova, cestode ova & coccidian oocysts should be noted.
12. Note: The McMaster's Chambers can **NOT** be examined with the 40X or 100X objectives.