

Countess II FL Reusable Slide: comparison to disposable slides



Green benefits

- Less waste/use of fewer resources: 7.2 kg (15.9 lb) less waste per year

Introduction

We are committed to designing our products with the environment in mind—it's part of how we enable our customers to make the world healthier, cleaner, and safer. This fact sheet provides the rationale behind the environmental claim that use of the Invitrogen™ Countess™ II FL Reusable Slide generates less waste. Use of the Countess II FL Reusable Slide avoids generation of 7.2 kg of waste per year for a low-throughput user (using only 5 slides per day), compared to the disposable slides used with other automated cell counters.

Product description

The Invitrogen™ Countess™ II FL Automated Cell Counter is equipped

with state-of-the-art optics, autofocus, and image analysis software for rapid assessment of cells in suspension. The Countess II FL Automated Cell Counter eliminates the subjectivity of manual cell counting and user-to-user variability, provides a total cell count and viability in as little as 10 seconds, and requires no cleaning or routine maintenance.

In addition to providing improved accuracy with less time and effort, the Countess II FL system was designed with the environment in mind. In addition to the option of disposable slides, a unique reusable slide is available to reduce environmental impact.

Green features

Less waste/use of fewer resources

Traditional methodologies for automated cell counting require disposable, one-time-use slides. The Countess II FL system requires fewer plastic consumables than traditional technologies (Figure 1), reducing costs associated with lab plastics and biohazardous waste disposal. For a laboratory using only 5 slides per day over a 261 working-day year [1], the use of disposable slides generates 7.2 kg of waste (including slide packaging). Use of the Countess II FL Reusable Slide with the Countess II FL Automated Cell Counter saves

users the cost and inconvenience of managing this waste, and helps to support zero waste and other sustainability initiatives.



Figure 1. Waste generated using traditional disposable slides for cell counting. Pictured is the waste generated by one box of 50 slides. The use of 5 slides per day would generate 24 times this amount of waste per year.

Reference

1. United States Office of Personnel Management: Pay and Leave Pay Administration. <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/fact-sheets/computing-hourly-rates-of-pay-using-the-2087-hour-divisor/>

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