

HADES October 2013 Status Report

Microbiological analysis of the HADES payload is ongoing. The total number of cells collected during HASP 2013 has been calculated. We have successfully collected a sample from the stratosphere.

Measured	Avg Cells rod ⁻¹	Std dev		3 sigma	1 sigma
All FC	521	132.0		917	653
Sample	1381	350			

The payload has been refurbished to perform collection efficiency experiments. The collection efficiency of the HADES rotating sampler shall be compared to commercially available cascade impactor with known efficiencies. This data will allow use to calculate the abundance of microbes present at float altitudes. In addition to the total number of cells collected, the total volume of cells collected has also been recorded. This data will allow us to make estimates of total biomass at 120,000 ft.

The HADES team is currently organizing a publication to detail the operation of our payload. This will lay the groundwork for future publications detailing the data collected during HASP 2013.