There are few items that you will need to process samples other than the equipment that has been discussed in previous lectures.

Please note that the items in this lecture are traditional items used in the United States lab. If these exact items are not available, comparable items should be obtained. Each lab may be unique in the supplies used for drying samples in the oven, and how they place and store processed samples. Keep this in mind as you review the items presented here.

This slide contains images of “French Fry Trays”. These are small paper trays. When samples are received at the lab, they are placed in these trays, and then placed in oven for drying. Each tray is labeled with the sample number associated with the individual sample, so using paper is convenient for labeling. Note that each sample that a lab receives will need its own tray, so a number of these trays will be required to operate the lab efficiently. Aluminum trays can be used, but plastic CANNOT be used, as the trays will be placed in the drying oven at 60 degrees Celsius and will melt.
After the samples are dried and ground in the sample mill, and processed, they should be stored in small envelopes like the ones shown. The envelopes shown here are referred to as coin envelopes, and are just the right size for storing the processed samples and labeling with ease. If this type of envelope is not available, try to find a comparable object that can be easily labeled and stored in the box that you choose for your lab.

Finally, each lab will need a box that can store a large number of processed samples. When choosing the type of box to use in your lab, consider the size of the envelopes that the final processed samples will be placed in, how many can fit into the box you select, and how easy the filled boxes will fit in the space available in your lab. All of these decisions will depend on how your lab was set up, and the supplies available for use. Each box should be labeled with the type of sample, location, and dates contained within it for easy reference.