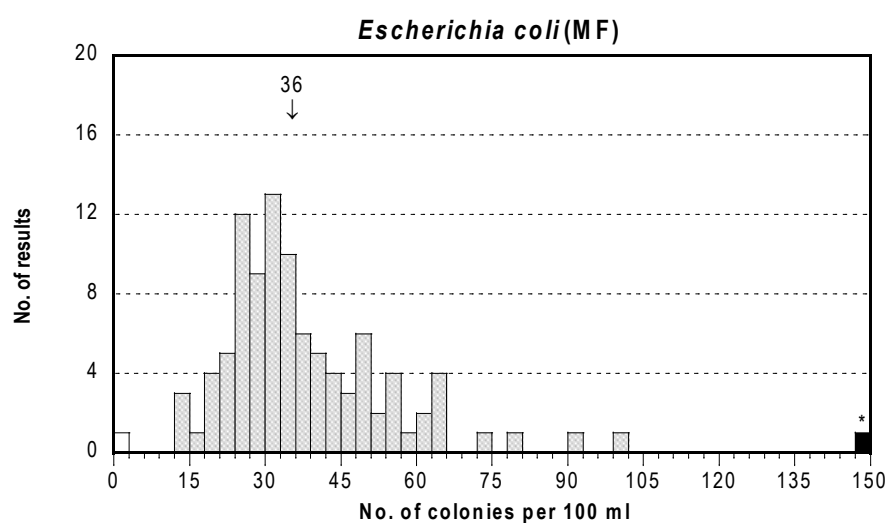


Proficiency Testing

Drinking Water Microbiology

2010:2, September

by Christina Lantz, Tommy Šlapokas and Irina Boriak



**LIVSMEDELS
VERKET**

NATIONAL FOOD
ADMINISTRATION, Sweden

Proficiency Testing
Drinking Water Microbiology
2010:2, September

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Introduction

In all analytical activity it is of utmost importance that the work maintains a well documented high standard. Therefore, most laboratories have a system for quality assurance. How well this works has however to be evaluated by an independent part. Such an external quality check of laboratory competence is also commonly required by the accreditation bodies. This may be done by taking part in proficiency tests. The laboratories that participate in the proficiency test are supposed to follow instructions, perform analyses using their routine methods on the received samples and report their results to the organiser. The organiser subsequently evaluates the results and finally compiles them in a report. This report summarises the results from such a proficiency test. There are at all events three purposes with the microbiological proficiency testing activity at the National Food Administration.

1. Laboratories should receive an external evaluation of parts of their analytical competence, including usage of methods, documentation and orderliness.
2. The accreditation bodies in respective countries should have a tool at inspections regarding new accreditation and maintenance of accreditation.
3. Laboratories and the organiser should receive increased knowledge regarding how well methods work, with respect to various types of organisms, at laboratories that on a routinely basis perform analyses.

Design

Analyses and mixtures

This particular proficiency test was performed during week 36 in September 2010, and is registered as no. 3568/2010 at the National Food Administration, Uppsala. Samples were sent to 119 laboratories out of which 34 Swedish, 69 from other Nordic countries and 16 from other countries. One laboratory did not report results.

Assessed parameters:

Coliform bacteria and *Escherichia coli* with membrane filtration (MF)

Coliform bacteria and *Escherichia coli* with a rapid method with MPN results

Intestinal enterococci with MF

Pseudomonas aeruginosa with MF

Total plate count (Culturable microorganisms) **3 days incubation at 22±2 °C**

Total plate count 2 days incubation at 36±2 °C

Not assessed parameters:

For the MF analyses also the number of suspected colonies on the primary culturing plates could be reported. However, those results have not been included in the calculations of erroneous results with respect to the individual laboratory. No judgement is made, rather, they are used only as base for interpretations and discussions.

The proficiency test comprised three simulated water samples. Each laboratory was assigned to perform the analyses according to its ordinary methods routinely used on drinking water samples. The test material is first and foremost adjusted to those EN ISO methods for analyses of drinking water, stated in the drinking water directive of the European Union (1). Accepted alternative methods in EU are in general also possible to use, as well as other similar methods.

Three freeze-dried test materials were produced from different microorganism mixtures. The material was manufactured and freeze-dried in portions of 0.5 ml in small vials, according to the description by Peterz and Steneryd (2). Each laboratory received one vial of each mixture. The simulated water samples, 800 ml each, were prepared by dissolving the content of the vials in sterile dilution or rinsing agent.

The microbial composition in respective mixture is clear from **table 1**.

Table 1 *Microbial mixtures*¹

Mixture	Microorganisms	Strain no.	No. of CFU/100 ml ²
A	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	SLV-165	38
	<i>Enterococcus durans</i>	SLV-078	123
	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	SLV-395	10
	<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	SLV-041	34*
B	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	SLV-295	45
	<i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i>	SLV-533	12
	<i>Enterococcus hirae</i>	SLV-536	76
	<i>Staphylococcus capitis</i>	SLV-463	60*
C	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	SLV-089	230
	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	SLV-187	297
	<i>Pseudomonas cepacia</i>	SLV-042	732
	<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	SLV-013	484

1 For linkage between the randomised sample number and respective mixture, please see annex A

2 Based on results from duplicate analyses, performed at the National Food Administration, of 10 vials per mixture, (for mixture A 5 vials). Somewhat varying results are obtained depending on from which sample volumes and media the calculations are made. The results from m-Endo Agar LES have been used for *E. coli*, *A. hydrophila* and *K. oxytoca*, and *E. cloacae*; those from m-Enterococcus Agar for *E. durans* and *E. hirae*; those from PACN Agar for *P. aeruginosa* and *P. cepacia*; those from YeA for *S. maltophilia* and *S. capitis* (cf. table 2) — no. is stated as cfu (“colony forming units”) per 100 ml, if other is not stated

* cfu per ml

Quality check of the samples

Homogenous samples and uniform volumes in all vials are prerequisites in order for comparison of all freeze-dried samples from one mixture to be feasible. The volume has been checked in at least 13 vials from each mixture. The difference between all the vials were at most 3 mg. The highest accepted deviation is 15 mg (3%). **Table 2** presents the results from duplicate analyses of 10 vials from each mixture as coefficients of variation (CV). The results relate to that unit by volume at which the colonies were counted. According to the criteria used, the CV's were acceptable for all mixtures in order to be regarded as homogenous. The highest accepted CV is normally 25%. At very low colony counts a higher CV is accepted. To read more about the calculations, see the scheme protocol (3)

Table 2 *Coefficients of variation (%; square root transformed results¹) for various microbial groups, in analyses performed in connection to the proficiency test*

Analysis	Mixture		
	A	B	C
Suspected coliform bacteria (MF) ²	7	6	4 ^a
Suspected thermotolerant coliform bact. (MF) ³	8	6	25 ^a
Intestinal enterococci (MF) ⁴	2	5	4 ^a
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (MF) ⁵	12	–	–
Culturable microorg., 3d at 22 °C (pour-plate) ⁶	–	–	10
Culturable microorg., 2d at 37 °C (pour-plate) ⁶	5	6	9

1 n=10, (mixture A n=5), mean values á 2 analyses of 100 ml for MF and 1 ml for pour-plate, if other is not stated; mixtures A, B and C analysed 20, 15 and 9 weeks ahead of the proficiency test, respectively

2 m-Endo Agar LES according to SS 028167 [analyses were also made on Lactose TTC Agar with Tergitol according to SS-EN ISO 9308-1:2000, but those results are not accounted for here]

3 m-FC Agar, 44 °C according to SS 028167 [analyses were also made on Lactose TTC Agar with Tergitol according to SS-EN ISO 9308-1:2000, but those results are not accounted for here]

4 m-Enterococcus Agar (m-Ent) according to SS-EN ISO 7899-2:2000

5 *Pseudomonas* Agar base Cetrimide Nalidixic acid Agar (PACN) according to SS-EN ISO 16266:2008

6 Yeast extract Agar (YeA; yeast extract agar with tryptone) according to SS-EN ISO 6222:1999

a Read for the volume 10 ml

– Not analysed

Laboratory results

General information regarding the results

The histograms (**figure 1**) show the actual distribution of the results. False positives are not presented in the histograms. The total number of these, and other results with annotations, are compiled in **table 3**. False results and outliers are generally not included in the calculations. **All reported laboratory results are compiled in annex A and photo examples of colony appearance are given in annex B.**

In most histograms are “tails” in either or both directions, representing values that do not belong to the distribution present. Better normal distributions are obtained by performing square-root transformations of the results, and are, therefore, used for the calculations. The significance of these “tails” is in that way decreased. Very deviating values are identified as outliers also after square root transformation (black bars). They are present in most analyses. False negative results are presented as white bars. The calculations are more elaborately described in the scheme protocol (3).

Outliers are identified with the aid of Grubbs’ test according to a modification by Kelly (4). A level of 1% is used as risk to incorrectly assess a result as being an outlier. Although the method itself is objective, it is a prerequisite that the results are normally distributed in order to obtain correct outliers at the 1% level. A result of zero that is identified as a low outlier is regarded as a false negative result. In special situations, e.g. when many zero results are reported and in some borderline cases, a few subjective adjustments are made in order to set just limits, based on the knowledge of the content of the mixtures.

The coefficient of variation (CV) is used to measure the dispersion of the laboratory results. If the dispersion is < 10% it is regarded as very small, 10-20% as small, 20-30% as medium, 30-40% as large and > 40% as very large.

Table 3 *Number of analytical results with annotation in evaluated analyses*

Classification of results	Number of results ¹			Total	Total no. of laboratories
	A	B	C		
<i>No. of evaluated results</i>	692	693	694	2079	118^a
False positives	0	9	29	38	29
False negatives	8	9	3	20	10
Low outliers	8	12	6	26	15
High outliers	13	13	11	37	24
<i>No. of results with annotation</i>	29	10	49	121	56^b

1 Results obtained in the analyses designated suspected have not been included

a Number of laboratories that reported analytical results

b Number of laboratories that reported at least one result with annotation

Outcome of the mixtures

Mixture A

Discussion in general

The mixture contained four bacterial strains (table 1 and **table 4**): *E. coli* as coliform bacterium, *E. durans* as intestinal enterococcus, *P. aeruginosa* and *S. maltophilia*, which emerges as a culturable microorganism at 22±2 °C as well as at 36±2 °C.

Table 4 The outcome per analysis of mixture A; F+ and F- are the shares (%) false positive and negative results, respectively. Outl. < and Outl. > are the shares (%) low and high outliers, respectively. Results from analyses on shaded rows have in general not been numerically evaluated – median is there stated instead of mean.

Analysis	Organisms	CFU/ vol. ¹	CV ² (%)	F+	F-	Outl <	Outl >
Susp. coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	37	–				
Coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	34	13	-	1	0	6
Susp. thermotol. colif. bact. (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	33	–				
<i>E. coli</i> (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	35	16	-	2	0	0
Coliform bact. (rapid method)	<i>E. coli</i>	38	11	-	1	3	0
<i>E. coli</i> (rapid method)	<i>E. coli</i>	38	11	-	1	1	0
Susp. intest. enterococci (MF)	<i>E. durans</i>	120	–				
Intestinal enterococci (MF)	<i>E. durans</i>	120	10	-	0	1	0
Susp. <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (MF)	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	8	–				
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (MF)	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	8	26	-	3	0	3
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 22±2 °C, 3 days	<i>S. maltophilia</i> (<i>E. durans</i>) (<i>P. aeruginosa</i>) (<i>E. coli</i>)	24	14	-	0	4	0
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 36±2 °C, 2 days	<i>S. maltophilia</i> (<i>E. durans</i>) (<i>P. aeruginosa</i>) (<i>E. coli</i>)	23	16	-	1	0	1

1 “Colony Forming Units” per unit by volume – 1 ml for total count microorg., otherwise 100 ml

2 “Coefficient of Variation” – calculated from square root transformed results (see Annex)

- Numerical value impossible to obtain

– Organism not included or numerical value not calculated

() The organism contributes with only a few colonies

[] The organism often appears as a false positive in a suspected analysis

{ } The organism may give varying results depending on different definitions

Coliform bacteria (MF)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1A). The dispersion was small.
- 1 false negative result and 6 high outliers were reported.
- Merely one *E. coli* strain made up the coliform bacteria.
- The deviating high results may be due to that small, yellow oxidase negative *E. durans* colonies have been included as coliform bacteria when Lactose TTC Agar was used as medium according to the standard XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000.

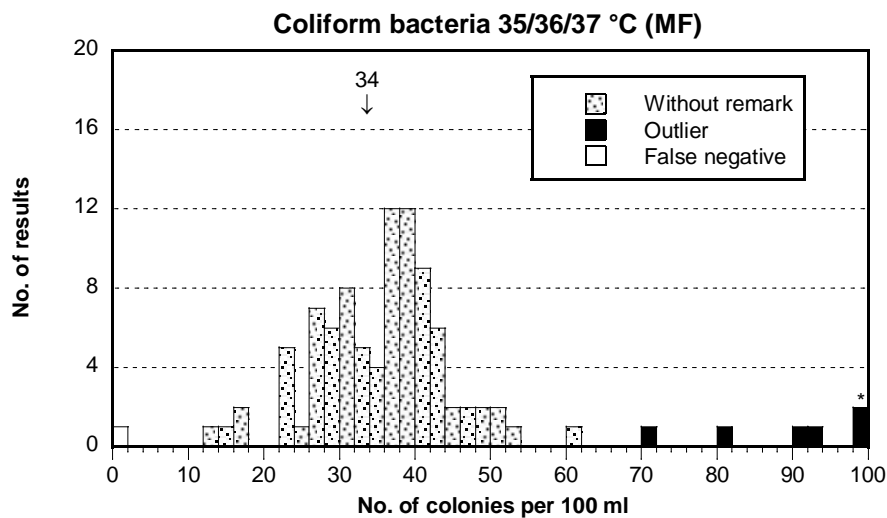


Figure 1A Mixture A, histogram of all analytical results. False negatives are represented by white bars, and outliers (false negatives excluded) are represented by black bars. The range of the x-axis has not been adjusted to very deviating values. Results outside the range of x are indicated by a bar with an asterisk (*) on top, at the right end of the x-axis. The mean value of the analysis is presented together with an arrow above the bars. Calculation of the mean value was made from square root transformed results, outliers and false negatives excluded.

Suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria

In 56 cases, colonies regarded as suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria were obtained. They are made up by *E. coli*, which emerged on m-FC Agar or Lactose TTC Agar at 44/44.5 °C.

E. coli (MF)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1B). The dispersion was small.
- 2 false negative results were reported.

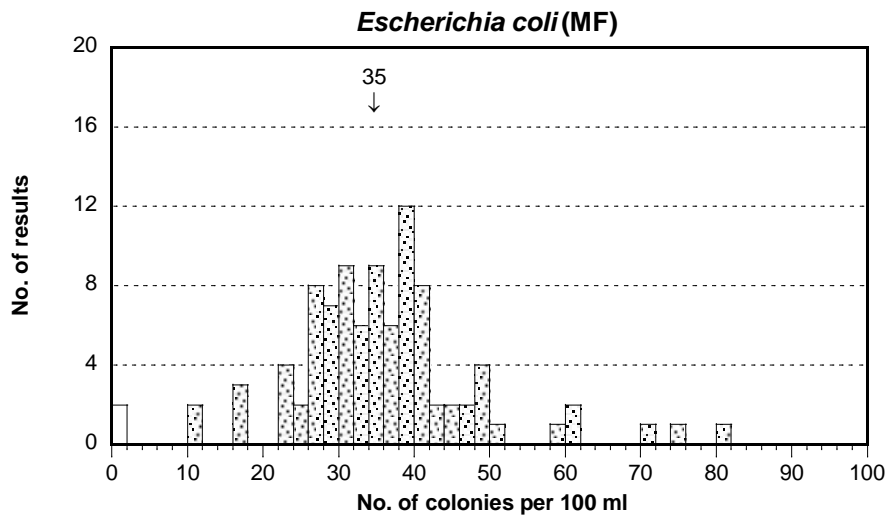


Figure 1B *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

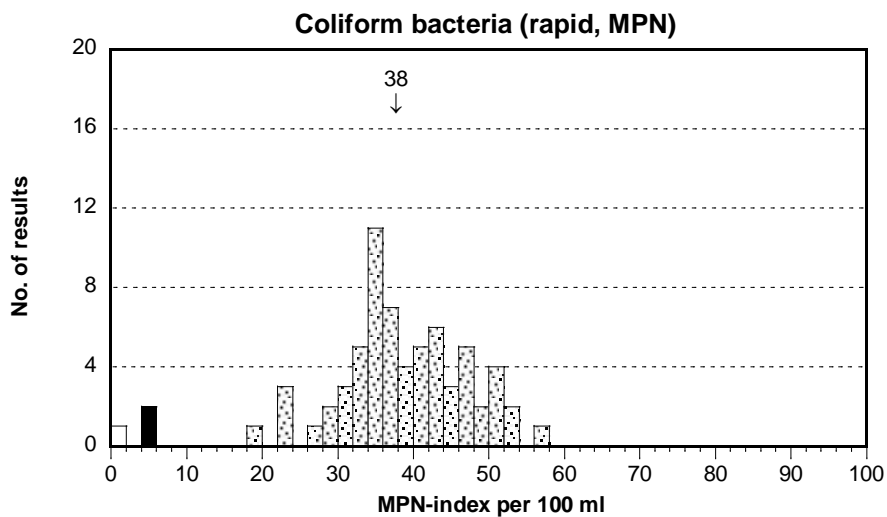


Figure 1C *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

Coliform bacteria (rapid method, MPN)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1C) and the dispersion was small.
- 1 false positive result and 2 low outliers were reported.

E. coli (rapid method, MPN)

- The results were less dispersed than when the MF method was used (figure 1D).
- 1 false negative result and 1 low outlier were reported.

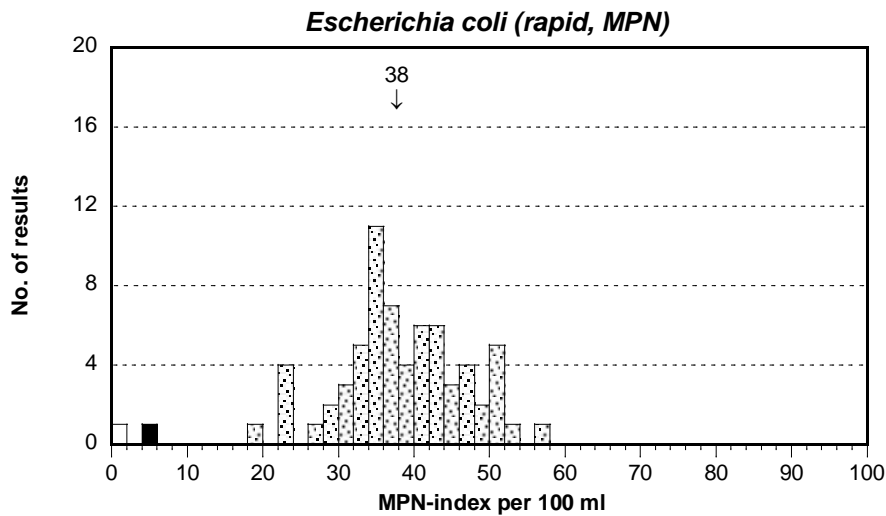


Figure 1D *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

Intestinal enterococci

- The results were well distributed (figure 1E). The dispersion was small.
- 1 low outlier was reported.
- The *E. durans* strain made up the intestinal enterococci. The strain has shown tendencies to give a markedly lower exchange on certain batches of membrane filters and is therefore a good "indicator" for filter problems with respect to enterococci. Such interference may be a possible explanation to the lowest results.

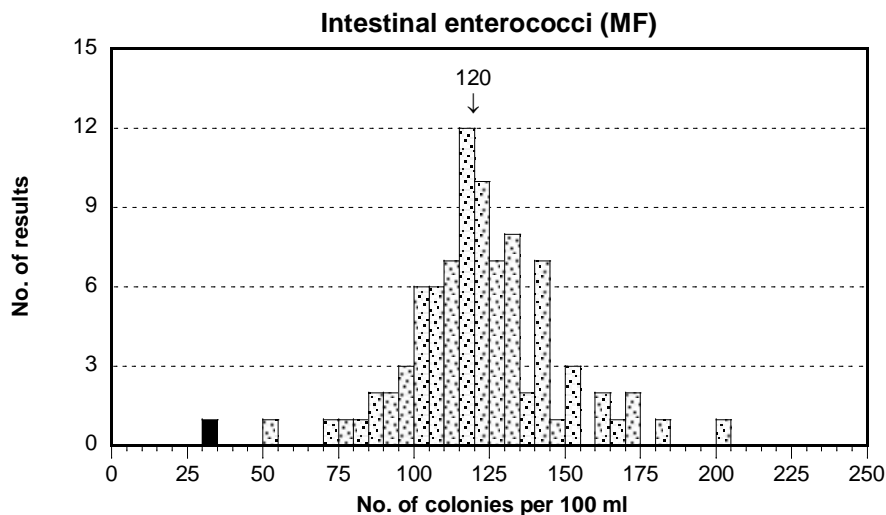


Figure 1E *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

- The results were well distributed (figure 1F), the dispersion was of medium order, mainly because the content was low.
- 2 high outliers were reported.
- Confirmation is in general not necessary when the standard method is used, since the colonies ought to have become greenish.

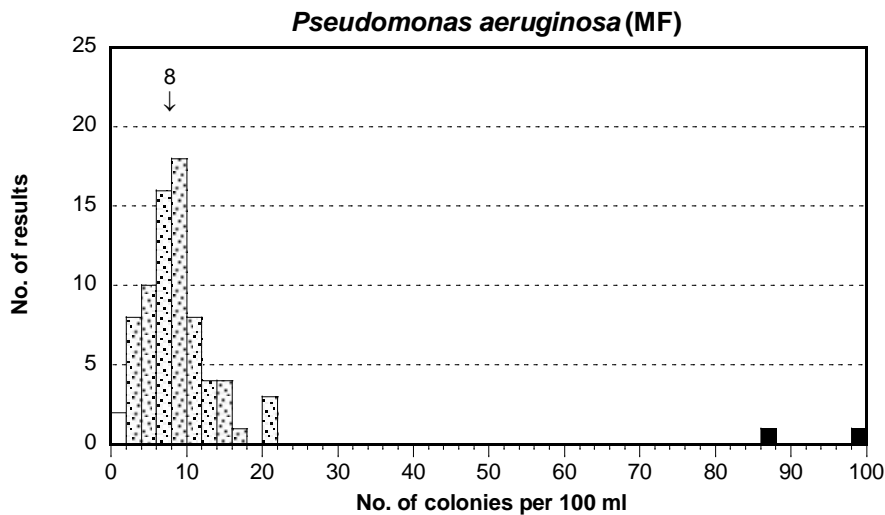


Figure 1F *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

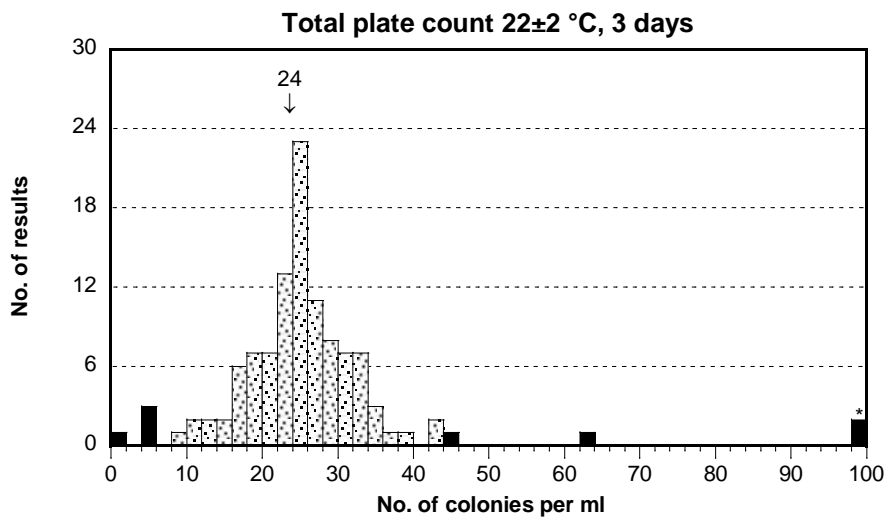


Figure 1G *Mixture A*, see figure 1A for explanations

Culturable microorganisms 22 °C, 3 days

- The results were well distributed at 22±2 °C (figure 1G). The dispersion was small.

- No false results, but 4 low and 4 high outliers were reported. The high outliers may have been caused by contamination in the laboratory.

Culturable microorganisms 36 °C, 2 days

- The results were somewhat more scattered at 36±2 °C, compared to at 22±2 °C (figure 1H), but the dispersion was still small at this temperature as well.
- 1 false negative result and 1 high outlier were reported.

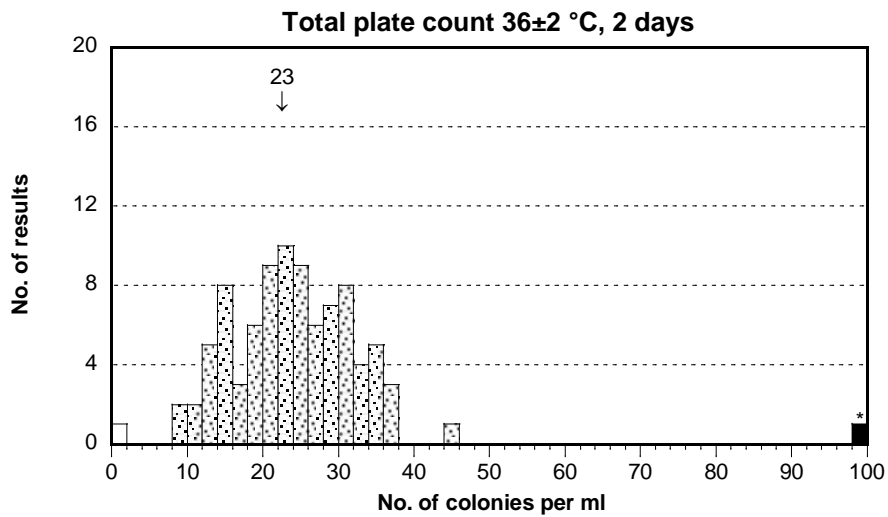


Figure 1H *Mixture A, see figure 1A for explanations*

Mixture B

Discussion in general

The mixture contained four bacterial strains (table 1 and **table 5**): *E. coli* as coliform bacterium, *A. hydrophila* which is able to emerge as a suspected coliform bacterium, *E. hirae* as intestinal enterococcus and *S. capitis* which emerges as a culturable microorganism at 36 °C but not at 22±2 °C. The *E. coli* strain did not emerge on all media in the *E. coli* analysis.

Table 5 The outcome of mixture B; see table 4 for explanations and notes

Analysis	Organisms	CFU/ vol. ¹	CV ² (%)	F+	F-	Outl	
						<	>
Susp. coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>E. coli</i> [<i>A. hydrophila</i>]	47	—				
Coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	39	12	-	1	2	3
Susp. thermotol. colif. bact. (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	32	—				
<i>E. coli</i> (MF)	<i>E. coli</i>	38	14	-	6	2	1
Coliform bact. (rapid method)	<i>E. coli</i>	38	14	-	1	3	0
<i>E. coli</i> (rapid method)	—	0	—	6	-	-	-
Susp. intest. enterococci (MF)	<i>E. hirae</i>	75	—				
Intestinal enterococci (MF)	<i>E. hirae</i>	74	8	-	1	1	0
Susp. <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (MF)	—	0	—				
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (MF)	—	0	—	0	-	-	-
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 22±2 °C, 3 days	(<i>E. coli</i>) (<i>A. hydrophila</i>) (<i>E. hirae</i>)	1	64	-	0	0	8
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 36±2 °C, 2 days	<i>S. capitis</i> (<i>E. coli</i>) (<i>A. hydrophila</i>) (<i>E. hirae</i>)	57	11	-	0	5	0

Coliform bacteria (MF)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1I). The dispersion was small.
- 1 false positive result, 3 low and 3 high outliers were reported.
- An *E. coli* strain with typical appearance made up the coliform bacteria.
- Present in the mixture was also a strain of *A. hydrophila*, whose colonies in many cases appeared as suspected coliform bacteria along with *E. coli*. The median for these was 47 cfu per 100 ml. After confirmation the mean value is 39 cfu and the *A. hydrophila* colonies have in most cases been disregarded of.

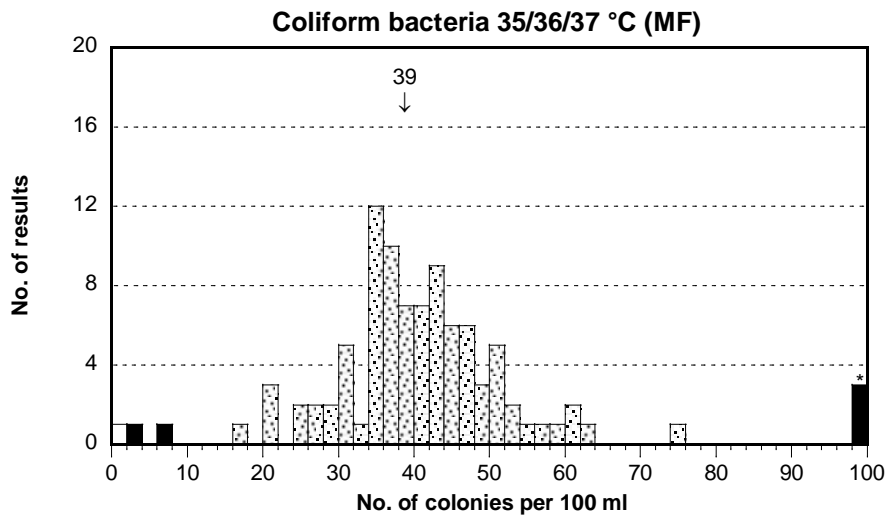


Figure 1I *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

Suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria

In 57 cases colonies regarded as suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria were obtained (figure 1J). They are made up by *E. coli*, which emerged on m-FC Agar and Lactose TTC Agar at 44/44.5 °C. What may have caused the results of zero is not known.

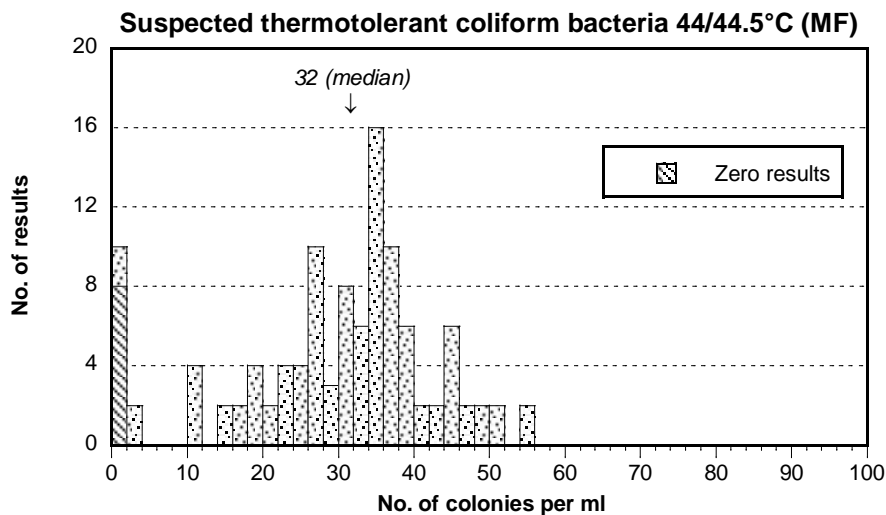


Figure 1J *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

E. coli, MF

- The results were well distributed. The dispersion was small (figure 1K).
- 6 false negative results, 2 low and 1 high outlier were reported.

- The *E. coli* strain emerges with typical colonies on m-Endo Agar LES and LTTC Agar at 35-37 °C, as well as on m-FC Agar at 44/44.5 °C. It does however not emerge with typical colonies on media based on detection of β -glucuronidase activity, e.g. Chromocult Agar® (Merck).
- Concerning laboratories that have analysed *E. coli* based on β -glucuronidase activity, the correct result is zero.

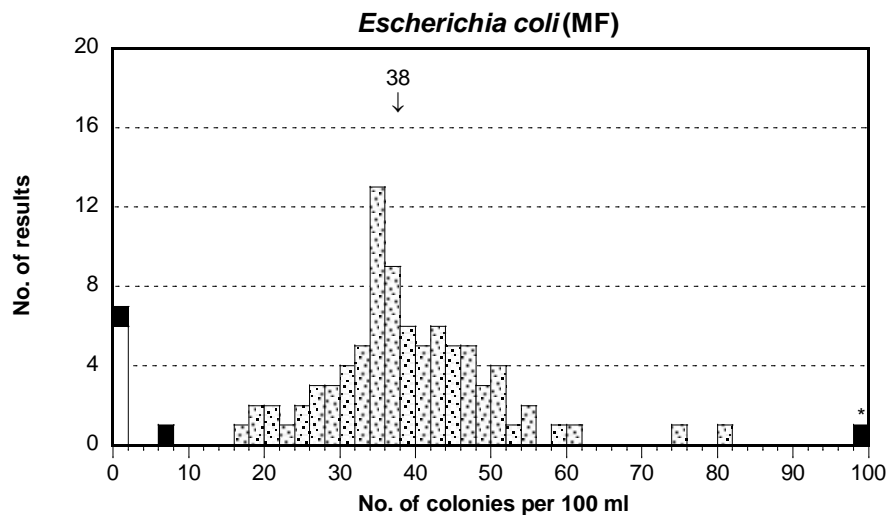


Figure 1K *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

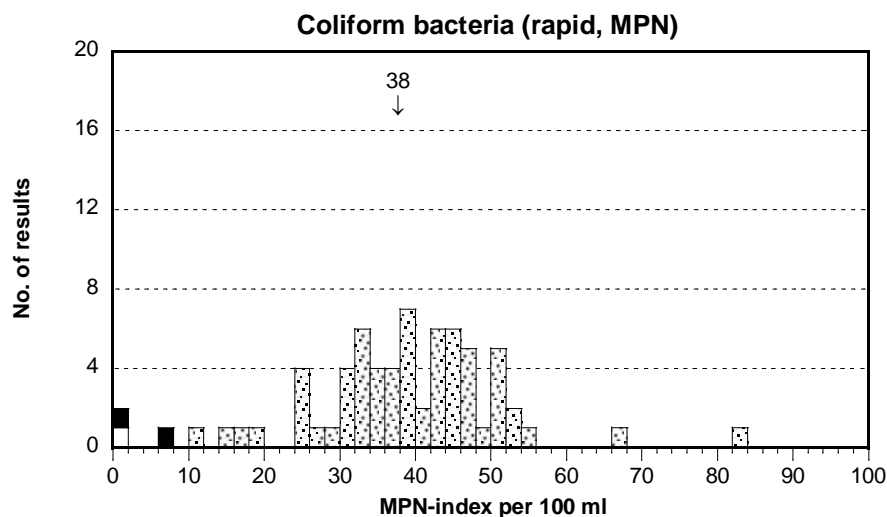


Figure 1L *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

Coliform bacteria (rapid method, MPN)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1L). The dispersion was small. The mean value was roughly the same as with the MF method.

- 1 false negative result and 2 low outliers were reported.

E. coli (rapid method, MPN)

- The *E. coli* strain in the mixture is β -glucuronidase negative, which means that it normally will not give any fluorescence with Colilert[®]-18/24 Quanti-Tray[®]. The bacteria should therefore not be detected as *E. coli* with this method. Still 4 false positive results have been reported.
- Earlier tests made at the National Food Administration were done to observe if incubation time of Colilert[®]-18 affect the reading of fluorescence. After 24 hours of incubation there were still no fluorescence (7).

Intestinal enterococci

- The results were well distributed (figure 1M). The dispersion was very small.
- 1 false negative result and 1 low outlier were reported.
- A strain of *E. hirae* made up the intestinal enterococci.

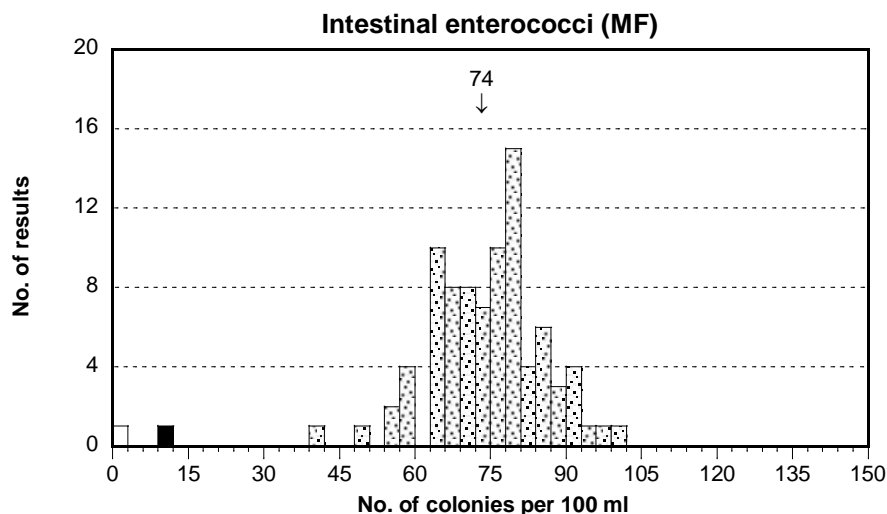


Figure 1M *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

Culturable microorganisms 22 °C, 3 days

- The results were rather well distributed, considering the low mean -1 cfu per ml (figure 1N). The relative dispersion was therefore, as expected, large.
- *S. capitis* does not emerge at 22 °C. The three remaining bacterial strains however do, but at very low numbers.
- 8 high outliers were reported.

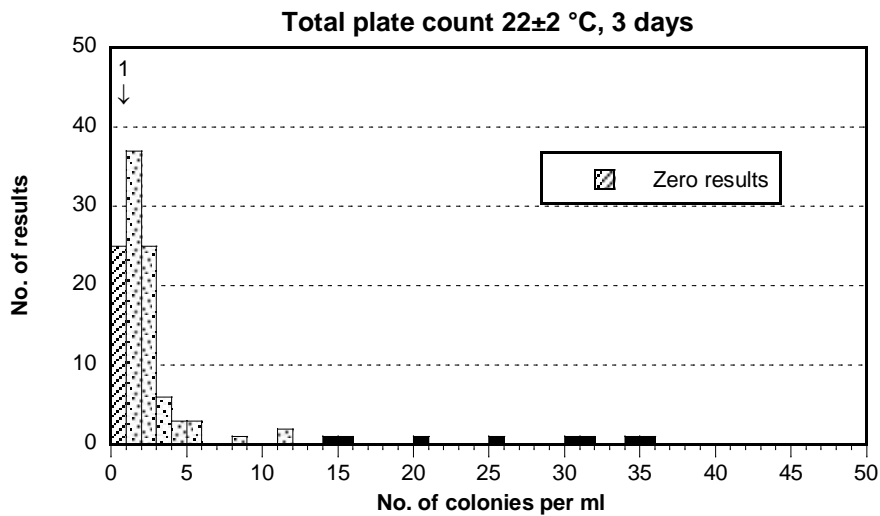


Figure 1N *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

Culturable microorganisms 36 °C, 2 days

- The results were well distributed (figure 1O). The relative dispersion was small.
- 5 low outliers were reported, the cause of which is unknown.
- *S. capitis* emerges at 36 °C, and made up the majority of culturable microorganisms. The remaining bacterial strains emerged at very low numbers.

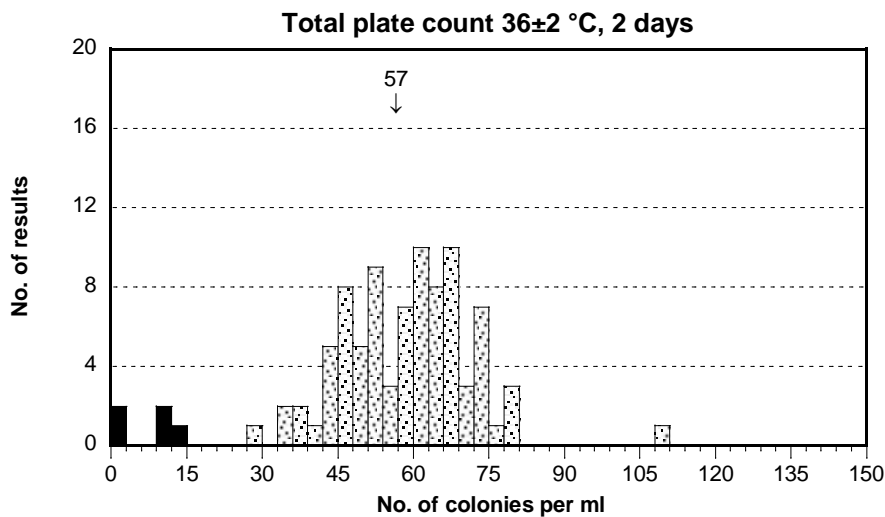


Figure 1O *Mixture B*, see figure 1A for explanations

Mixture C

Discussion in general

The mixture contained four bacterial strains (table 1 and **table 6**): *E. cloacae* and *K. oxytoca* as coliform bacteria, *P. cepacia* which emerges with pale colonies but without fluorescence on Pseudomonas Agar base with cetrimide and naldixic acid (PACN Agar), and a strain of *S. saprophyticus*, whose colonies are more or less red on m-Enterococcus Agar and may therefore be suspected to be enterococci.

Table 6 The outcome of mixture C; see table 4 for explanations and notes

Analysis	Organisms	CFU/ vol. ¹	CV ² (%)	F+	F-	Outl <	Outl >
Susp. coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>K. oxytoca</i> <i>E. cloacae</i>	418	—				
Coliform bacteria (MF)	<i>K. oxytoca</i> <i>E. cloacae</i>	399	18	-	1	2	1
Susp. thermotol. colif. bact. (MF)—	—	75	—				
<i>E. coli</i> (MF)	—	0	—	20	-	-	-
Coliform bact. (rapid method)	<i>K. oxytoca</i> <i>E. cloacae</i>	446	14	-	0	4	0
<i>E. coli</i> (rapid method)	—	0	—	3	-	-	-
Susp. intest. enterococci (MF)	<i>S. saprophyticus</i>	0	—				
Intestinal enterococci (MF)	—	0	-	2	-	-	-
Susp. <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (MF)	<i>P. cepacia</i>	0	—				
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (MF)	—	0	—	8	-	-	-
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 22±2 °C, 3 days	<i>S. saprophyticus</i> <i>E. cloacae</i> <i>K. oxytoca</i> <i>P. cepacia</i>	14	16	-	1	1	5
Culturable microorganisms (total count) 36±2 °C, 2 days	<i>S. saprophyticus</i> <i>E. cloacae</i> <i>K. oxytoca</i> <i>P. cepacia</i>	14	17	-	1	0	4

Coliform bacteria (MF)

- The results were well distributed (figure 1P). The dispersion was small.
- 1 false negative result, 2 low and 1 high outlier were reported.
- One strain each of *K. oxytoca* and *E. cloacae* with typical appearance on both m-Endo Agar LES and LTTC Agar made up the coliform bacteria.

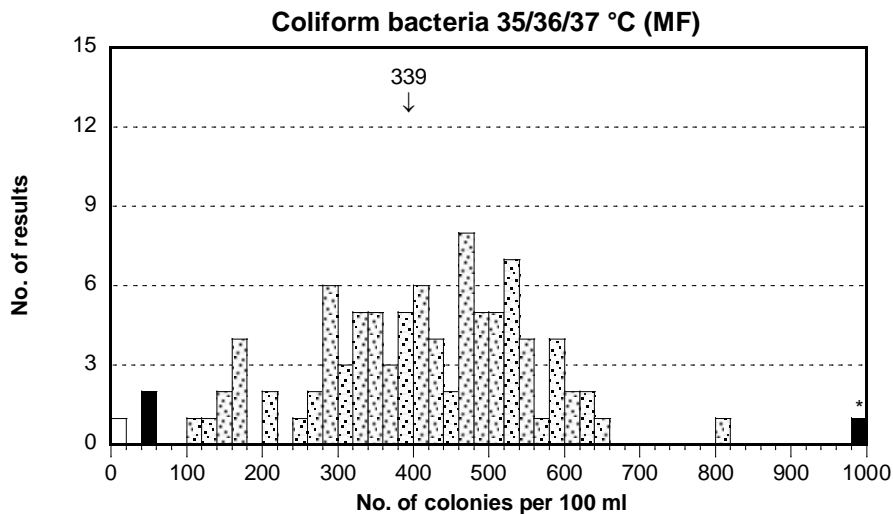


Figure 1P Mixture C, see figure 1A for explanations

Suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria

In 56 cases colonies were obtained that were regarded as suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria. They are made up by *E. cloacae*, which emerged to some extent on m-FC Agar and Lactose TTC Agar at 44/44.5 °C.

E. coli (MF)

- No *E. coli* was present in the mixture. However, a *K. oxytoca* strain and an *E. cloacae* strain, which emerge with typical colonies on both m-Endo Agar LES and TTC Agar at 35-37 °C, were included.
- When confirming for *E. coli*, and not performing tests for gas production or β -glucuronidase activity, *K. oxytoca* colonies may grow and produce indole in broth at 44 °C (5, 6), and therefore be taken for *E. coli*.
- If confirmation was performed from plates incubated at 44/44.5 °C, no *K. oxytoca* colonies will be available for confirmation.
- 19 false positive results were reported. These results can not be said to be erroneous, unless tests for gas production or β -glucuronidase activity have been made.

Coliform bacteria (rapid method, MPN)

- The results were well distributed, but with a few low and high values (figure 1Q). The dispersion was still small.
- 3 low outliers were reported.
- Both strains *K. oxytoca* and *E. cloacae* are ONPG positive and contribute to the result.

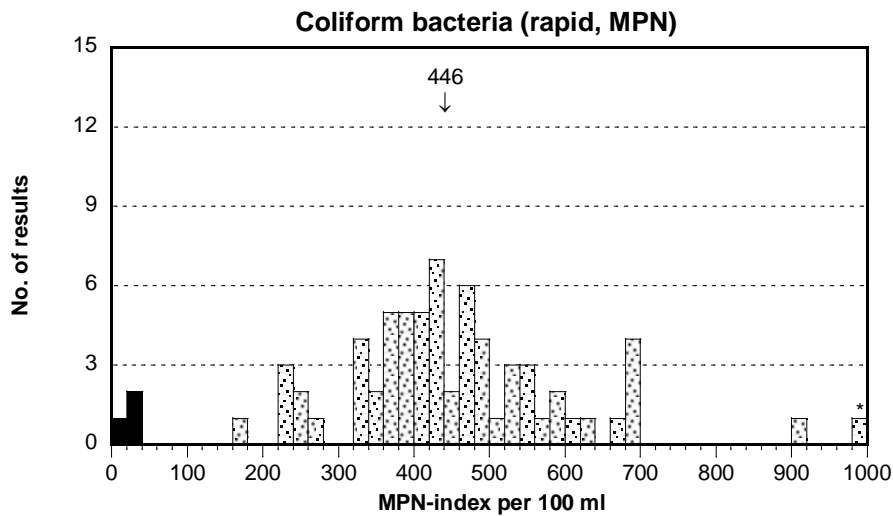


Figure 1Q *Mixture C*, see figure 1A for explanations

E. coli (rapid method, MPN)

- No *E. coli* was present in the mixture and the outcome should be zero.

Intestinal enterococci

- No intestinal enterococci were present in the mixture.
- 2 false positive results were, however, reported.
- A strain of *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* was included in the mixture, and its colonies may be reddish on m-Enterococcus Agar. The strain is negative in the confirmation step (no esculin hydrolysis).

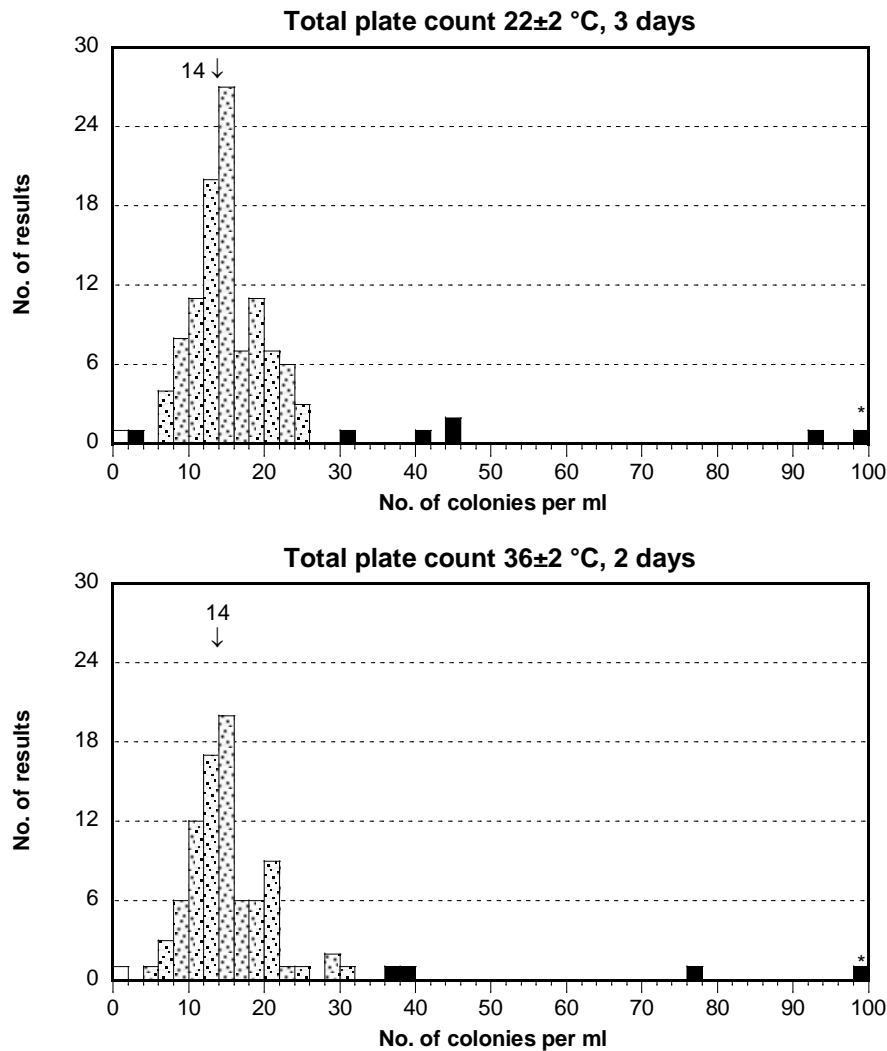
Pseudomonas aeruginosa

- No *P. aeruginosa* was present in the mixture.
- 6 false positive results were reported.
- A strain of *P. cepacia*, which emerges as pale yellow-white colonies on PACN Agar was included. They are however not fluorescent in UV-light and should not be regarded as suspected *P. aeruginosa*. When confirmed further, the strain is positive in Acetamide broth but negative on King B (no fluorescence).

Culturable microorganisms 22 °C, 3 days and 36±2 °C, 2 days

- The results were well distributed in both analyses (figures 1R and 1S). The dispersion was small.
- 1 false negative result, 1 low and 6 high outliers were reported at 22 °C.
- 1 false negative and 4 high outliers were reported at 36 °C.

- The majority of the culturable microorganisms at both temperatures was made up by *S. saprophyticus*.



Figures 1R and 1S Mixture C, see figure 1A for explanations

Outcome of the methods

General information regarding methods

After the optional new web recording of method information, started in September 2006, there is still too few laboratory replies as regards most parameters for any reasonable comparisons between methods used for one and the same analysis to be made. The share of method information in relation to the numerical results that were stated by the participating laboratories is presented in **table 7**. The share ranges from 71% for culturable microorganisms 36 °C, to 84% for *E. coli* (MF).

If method alternatives should be missing in the method forms, we repeat the appeal to you to inform us about such alternatives, in order to be able to add them to the available alternatives. New alternatives may possibly be in slight need of modification by us, as regards linguistics, to fit among the others. The final adjustment of the method information can thus not be made by the laboratories until the new alternatives have been added.

Table 7 *The number of participating laboratories that stated analytical results and method information, and the share of method information expressed as percentage for respective parameters.*

Analytical parameter	Analytical results	Method information	Method information
	(no.)	(no.)	(%)
Coliform bacteria (MF)	96	80	83
Thermotol. colif. bact. (MF)	57	43	75
<i>E. coli</i> (MF)	95	80	84
Coliform bact. (rapid method)	69	53	77
<i>E. coli</i> (rapid method)	69	53	77
Intestinal enterococci	88	63	72
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	76	73	76
Culturable microorg., 22±2 °C	112	90	80
Culturable microorg., 36±2 °C	91	65	71

Results for coliform bacteria and *E. coli* (MF) with different methods

In Norway, Finland and Sweden, the previously used membrane filtration methods (MF) for coliform bacteria may be used at statutory sampling, as alternatives to the reference method EN ISO 9308-1:2000, based on Lactose TTC Agar with Tergitol 7 ("LTTC Agar"). The previously used methods, which are based on m-Endo Agar LES ("LES endo agar") and m-FC Agar, are often used more or less modified. In Sweden and Finland, m-FC Agar should not be used for *statutory sampling* in drinking water, rather, *E. coli* should be determined by the confirmation of "LES Endo Agar" plates incubated at 36±2 °C. The *E. coli* confirmation in Sweden is made up by a negative oxidase test for coliform bacteria, and in addition, a positive indole test at 44 °C and since the autumn of 2010 β -glucuronidase activity test is also included, in order to eliminate among others, indole positive, thermotolerant *K. oxytoca* strains (8). In Finland, an additional gas test at 44 °C or β -glucuronidase activity test is recommended as well. In such cases, *E. coli* should be indole positive as well as gas or β -glucuronidase positive.

Apart from the reference method XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 (XX stands for the national versions), the older national standards used in Finland, Norway and

Sweden are presented individually in table 8 and 9. There are also the terms SS 028167 Modif. and SFS 3016/4088 Modif., as regards *E. coli*. They involve modifications such as those that were stated above, with respect to Sweden and Finland, respectively. Individual results obtained with another method or where the method is not known is not discussed here.

Regarding coliform bacteria, there was some difference for the results obtained with different methods (**table 8A**). The mean value for coliform bacteria in mixture

Table 8 Number of answers and results, outliers excluded, with different method standards in MF analysis of coliform bacteria (A) and *E. coli* (B) incubated at 36±2 °C

Method standard	Total no. of answ.	Mixture					
		A		B		C	
		n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹
A. Coliform bacteria	<u>74</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>413</u>
XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 ^a	15	15	36	18	39	20	353
SS 028167 ^b	22	22	36	20	39	21	452
SFS 3016 ^c	31	32	36	31	44	31	422
NS 4788 ^d	2	2	29	2	42	2	504
Other	0	0	–	0	–	0	–
B. Escherichia coli	<u>47</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>0</u>
XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 ^a	11	11	38	11	39	8	0
SS 028167 Modif. ^{b, e}	14	14	34	13	37	11	0
SFS 3016/4088 Modi ^{f, g}	22	22	33	20	39	20	0
NS 4792 ^h	0	0	–	0	–	0	–
Other	0	0	–	0	–	0	–

1 Mean values based on square root transformation cfu per 100 ml

a ISO/CEN Standard: Water quality — Detection and enumeration of *Escherichia coli* and coliform bacteria — Part 1: Membrane filtration method, September 2000 (XX stands for the national translations, if any)

b Swedish Standard: Coliform Bacteria, Thermotolerant Coliform Bacteria and *Escherichia coli* in Water — Determination with Membrane Filtration Method (MF), 2nd ed. 1996-03-13

c Finnish Standard: Membrane filter technique for the enumeration of total coliform bacteria in water, 2001-05-21

d Norwegian Standard: Coliform Bacteria — Membrane filter method, 1st ed. May 1990

e *E. coli* are coliform bacteria from m-Endo Agar LES that are indole positive at 44 °C or β-glucuronidase and indole positive at 44 °C

f Finnish Standard: Membrane filter technique for the enumeration of thermotolerant (faecal) coliform bacteria in water, 2001-05-21

g *E. coli* are coliform bacteria from m-Endo Agar LES that are indole positive, alternatively gas and indole positive or β-glucuronidase & indole positive at 44 °C

h Norwegian Standard: Thermotolerant coliform bacteria and presumptive *E. coli* — Membrane filter method, 1st ed. May 1990

C seem to be lower when method XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 is used compared with the other methods. Difficulties to count colonies on LTTC Agar could be a possible explanation.

Table 8B accounts for the outcome of *E. coli* that is confirmed after primary incubation at 36±2 °C. Mixture C did not contain any *E. coli*. Mixture A contained a “normal” *E. coli* but no obvious differences could be found there. Mixture B contained a *E. coli* that is β-glucuronidase negative but no obvious differences could be found there either.

Table 9 accounts for the outcome of suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria and confirmed *E. coli* from media incubated at 44/44.5 °C. For the analysis of suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria the national methods are used in a greater extend then EN ISO 9308-1:2000. Some differences in the results between

Table 9 Number of answers and results, with different method standards in analysis of suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria (A; all results) and *E. coli* (B; outliers excluded) with membrane filtration and incubation at 44/44.5 °C

Method standard	Total no. of answ.	Mixture					
		A		B		C	
		n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹
A. <i>Susp. thermotol. colif. bact.</i>	<u>43</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>67</u>
XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 ^a	8	8	38	8	22	8	70
SS 028167 ^b	8	8	37	8	30	8	148
SFS 4088 ^c	21	20	29	21	24	21	58
NS 4792 ^d	5	5	34	5	29	5	32
Other	1	1	29	1	28	1	0
B. <i>Escherichia coli</i>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>
XX-EN ISO 9308-1:2000 ^a	7	7	36	7	41	6	0
SS 028167 ^b	2	2	39	2	35	2	0
SFS 4088 ^c	4	4	32	4	41	4	0
NS 4792 ^d	2	2	29	2	26	2	0
Other	1	1	32	1	32	1	0

1 Mean values based o square root transformation

a ISO/CEN Standard: Water quality — Detection and enumeration of *Escherichia coli* and coliform bacteria — Part 1: Membrane filtration method, September 2000 (XX stands for the national translations, if any)

b Swedish Standard: Coliform Bacteria, Thermotolerant Coliform Bacteria and *Escherichia coli* in Water — Determination with Membrane Filtration Method (MF), 2nd ed. 1996-03-13

c Finnish Standard: Membrane filter technique for the enumeration of total coliform bacteria in water, 2001-05-21

d Norwegian Standard: Coliform Bacteria — Membrane filter method, 1st ed. May 1990

Table 10 Number of results, outliers excluded, with different method variants in the analysis of coliform bacteria (A) and *E. coli* (B) with membrane filtration

A. Coliform bacteria MF	Total no. of answ.	Mixture					
		A		B		C	
		n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹
Medium							
m-Endo Agar/Broth LES	54	54	35	53	42	54	444
”LTTC Agar” ²	18	14	36	16	38	18	345
Chromocult Agar	1	1	53	1	42	1	200
Other	1	1	29	1	38	1	327
Incubation temperature							
35 °C	20	20	35	18	1020	19	453
36 °C	19	19	35	19	1467	19	433
37 °C	34	30	36	32	1163	34	380
Other	2	1	42	0	–	2	431
B. Escherichia coli MF							
B. Escherichia coli MF	Total no. of answ.	Mixture					
		A		B		C	
		n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹	n	Mv ¹
Medium 35/36/37 °C³							
m-Endo Agar/Broth LES	47	47	35	44	38	39	0
”LTTC Agar” ²	35	35	33	33	38	31	0
Chromocult Agar	11	11	38	11	39	8	0
Other	1	1	29	0	–	0	–
Other	0	0	–	0	–	0	–
Medium 44/44.5 °C⁴							
m-FC Agar/Broth	8	8	32	8	33	8	0
”LTTC Agar” ²	5	5	33	5	27	5	0
Other	3	3	32	3	44	3	0
Other	0	0	–	0	–	0	–
Incubation temperature							
From 35/36/37 °C	78	78	36	73	38	65	0
From 44/44.5 °C	48	48	35	45	38	40	0
From both 36 or 44 °C	15	15	34	15	38	14	0
From both 36 or 44 °C	11	11	39	9	41	8	0
Other	4	4	47	4	39	3	0

1 Mean values calculated based on square root transformation

2 m-Lactose TTC (2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium chloride) Agar + Tergitol 7 (heptadecylsulphate) according to EN ISO 9308-1:2000

3 Results regarding confirmed *E. coli*; from method information for coliform bacteria

4 Results regarding confirmed *E. coli*; from method information for thermotolerant coliform bacteria

the methods for suspected thermotolerant coliform bacteria may exist but is in such case probably correlated to the used strains and do not need to be general. There is a tendency that SS 028167 gives slightly higher results than the two other methods with LES endoagar, SFS 4088 and NS 4792, at least in some mixtures. A possible explanation could be that some laboratories in Finland and Norway incubate at 44.5 °C instead of 44 °C which is the dominant temperature in Sweden. A higher temperature is a selective component and therefore more inhibiting but is of course strain dependent.

Table 10 accounts for the outcome based on different primary media and incubation temperatures, independent of which method standard served as base. In mixture A and B one strain each of *E. coli* was included as the only coliform bacteria. Only small differences could be noticed regarding analysis of both coliform bacteria and *E. coli*. In mixture B could small differences be noticed regarding incubation temperature, 44/44.5 °C, for *E. coli*. m-FC agar is incubated at 44.5 °C by some laboratories in Finland and Norway while LTTC agar should normally be incubated at 44 °C.

Regarding coliform bacteria, there was some differences in the results between different media in mixture C, where no *E. coli* was included but, however, two other coliform bacteria. LTTC agar appear to have lower recovery than LES endoagar. This may be due to that it could be more difficult to count colonies on plates with LTTC agar. The colonies are not always distinct on that medium. It is probably not negative to incubate at 37 °C instead of at 35 or 36 °C. The lower results at 37 °C is most likely dependent on that relatively more results from LTTC agar is included there.

The outcome of deviating results – judgement

The reported results from all laboratories are accounted for in **annex A**. A summary of the results from each laboratory in annex A – apart from false results – is given by a box plot in **figure 2**. The lesser range from smallest to largest value, and the more centred around the standard value zero, the greater is the similarity among the laboratory results *and those averages obtained by pooling all accepted laboratory results*.

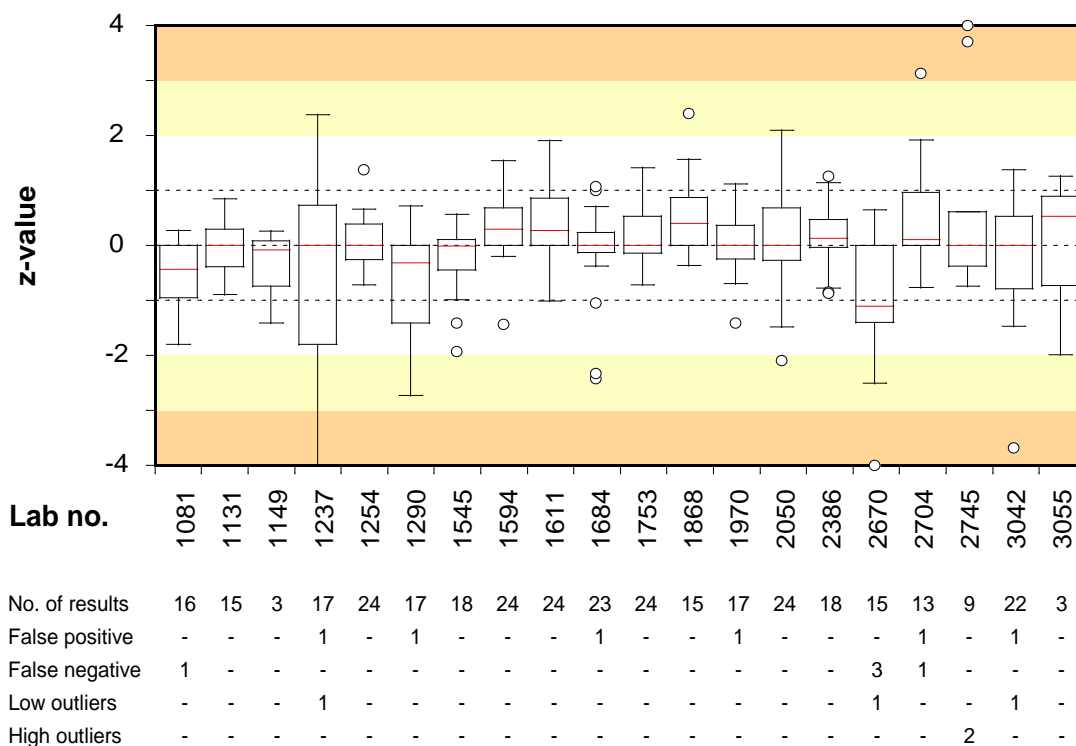
The laboratories are not grouped or ranked based on their results. The **judgement** that is made **aims to** clearly give information regarding the **number of false results and outliers**. These are presented in the tables below the box plots. Besides, false results and outliers are shaded and put in boldface in annex A. There are also limits for lowest and highest value accepted in each analysis stated in the summarizing rows at the bottom of annex A.

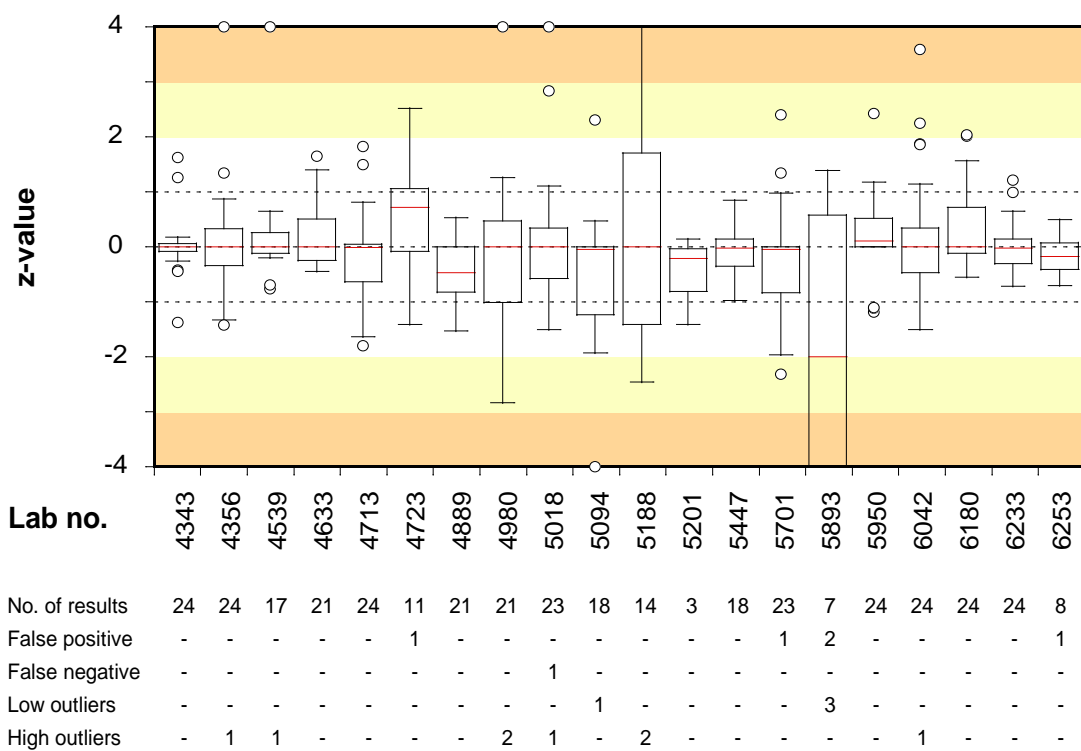
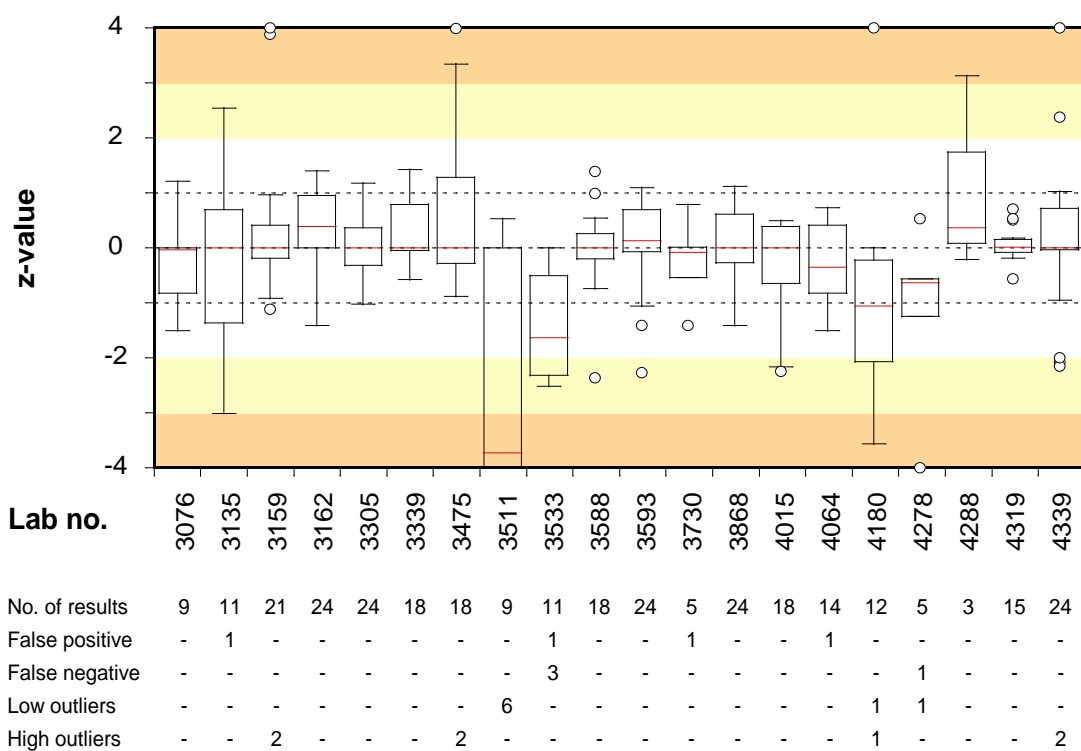
For description of how the analytical results have been treated and for recommendations on how follow-up of the results may be done, please see the scheme protocol (3). It is found as a PDF document on the website of our microbiological schemes www.slv.se/absint.

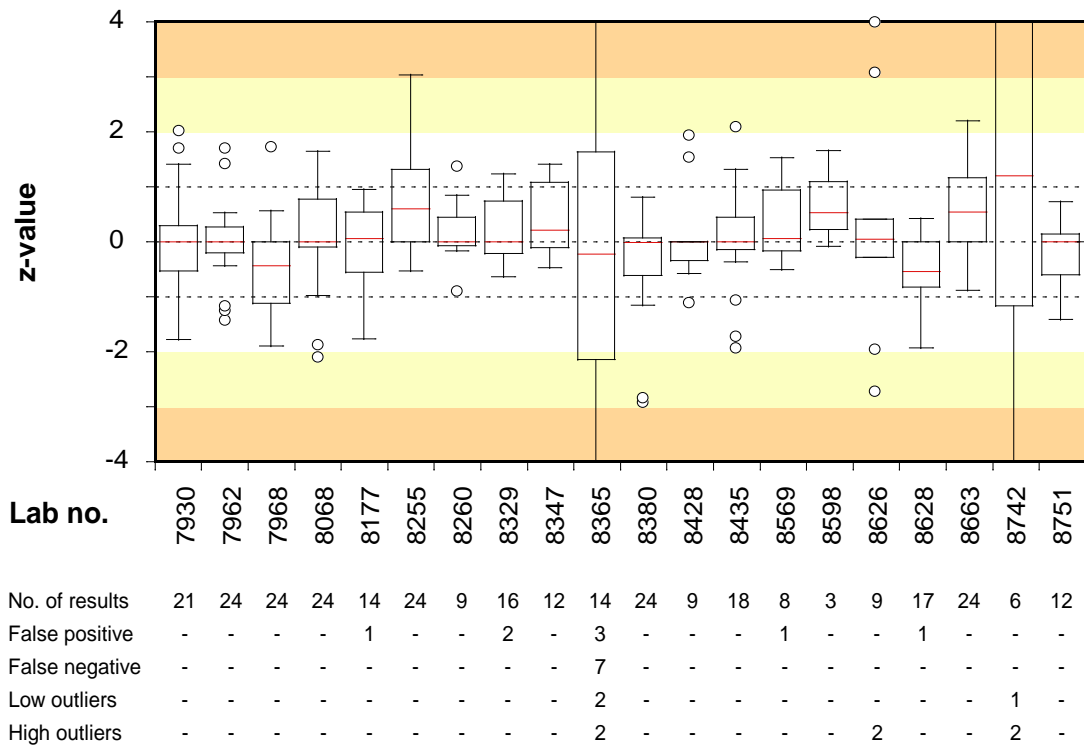
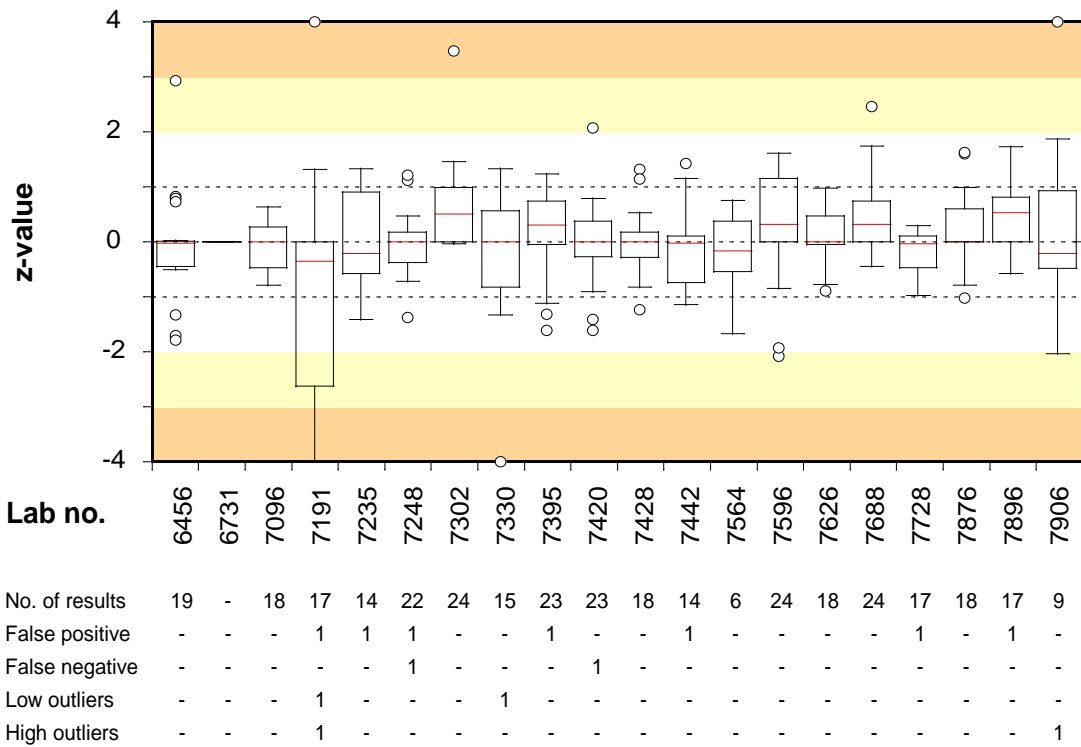
Figure 2 Box plots and number of deviating values for each participating laboratory. The square root transformed results of a laboratory is converted into standardised values (z-value) to be able to compare the different analyses.

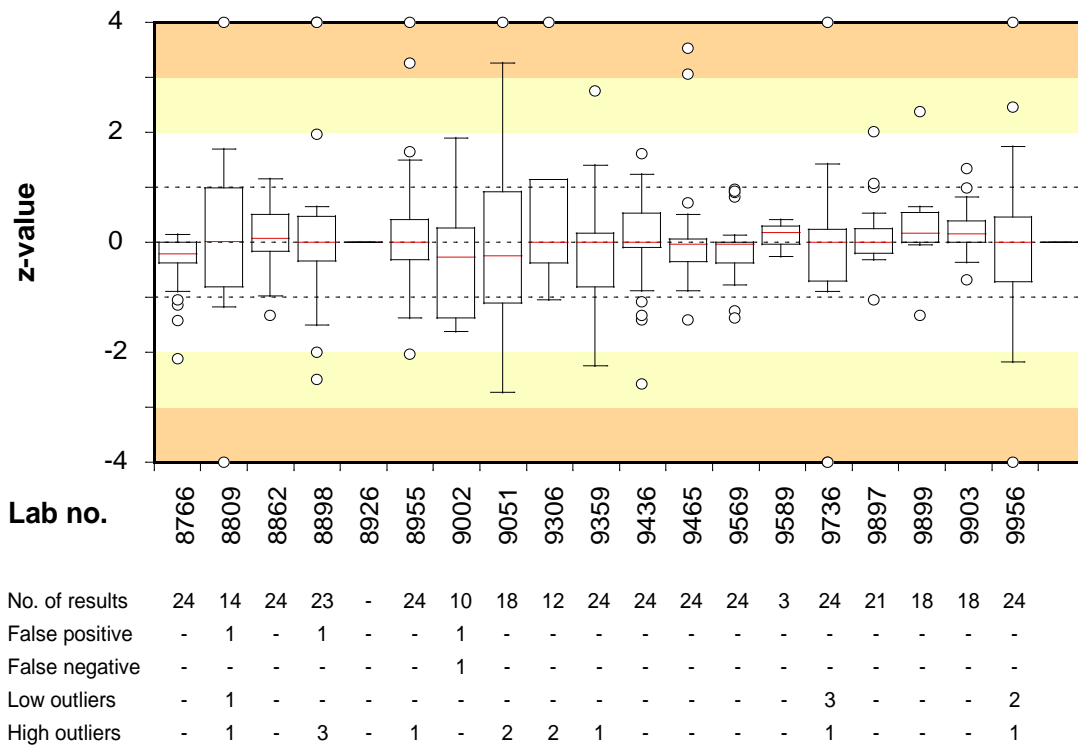
- Standardised values are calculated from the formula $z = (x - mv) / s$
- Standardised values $> +4$ and < -4 have in the plots received the values $+4$ and -4 , respectively.
- False results do not generate z values and are not included in 'No. of results'. False positive results cannot be illustrated in the box plots. The no. of false positives and false negatives are clear from the table beneath the plots.
- The outliers are included in the plots after recalculation to standardised values with the same s values as the rest of the results. The nos. is clear from the table.
- The horizontal line in each box indicates the median of the laboratory.
- The two box area parts embrace 25% of the results above and below the median, respectively. The lines reaching out from the box and/or the circles embrace the remaining 50% of the results, false results excluded.
- A circle is created when a result is highly deviating* from the rest.
- The background is decorated with lines and shaded fields to indicate ranges in order to simplify localisation of the laboratory results.

* $< [\text{smallest value of the box} - 1.5 \times (\text{largest value of the box} - \text{smallest value of the box})]$ or $> [\text{largest value of the box} + 1.5 \times (\text{largest value of the box} - \text{smallest value of the box})]$









References

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Annex A Results of the participants. Susp. = suspected on membrane filter before confirmation. Results given as <1, <2, <10 and <100 are treated as zero. The fields with other results given as 'value' and results given as > 'value' are **yellow**, and those results are not included in calculations or evaluations. This is also valid for results in **shaded columns**. **Empty hatched fields** indicate that the result has been deleted due to misunderstanding of instructions or use of improper method. A **hyphen** indicate that no result has been reported. **Figures written in bold in yellow fields** indicate outliers, false positive and false negative results. **Underlined zero values** indicate results characterized as 'False negative?'. **Crossed out sample numbers** on a line indicate that the samples probably

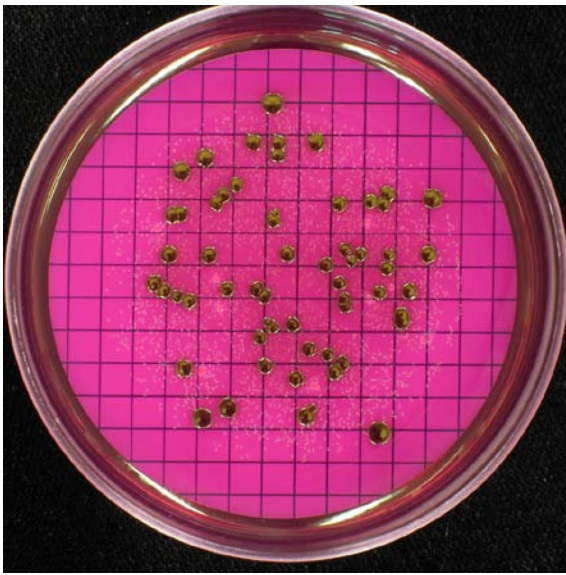
Lab no.	Sample	Suspected coliform bacteria (MF)			Coliform bacteria (MF)			Susp. thermotolerant coliform bact. (MF)			E. coli (MF)			Coliform bacteria ("rapid" MPN)			E. coli ("rapid" MPN)		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
1081	3 2 1	-	-	-	23	39	280	25	28	-	25	<1	<1	33	33	220	33	<1.1	<1.1
1131	1 2 3	29	54	530	27	46	530	-	-	-	27	46	0	34	44	460	34	0	0
1149	3 1 2	26	6	330	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1237	2 1 3	-	-	-	17	48	510	-	-	-	17	48	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
1254	2 3 1	-	-	-	31	40	450	-	-	-	31	40	0	35	46	410	35	<1	<1
1290	3 1 2	-	-	-	41	41	150	-	-	-	27	41	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
1545	1 3 2	39	44	270	39	39	270	39	39	1	39	39	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1594	1 3 2	41	49	370	41	46	370	40	34	42	41	46	0	38	45	260	38	0	0
1611	2 1 3	44	40	490	44	32	490	42	30	280	44	32	0	40	37	365	40	0	0
1684	3 1 2	34	50	380	34	50	380	-	11	0	34	50	0	35	15	472	35	15	0
1753	1 3 2	39	54	586	39	45	586	-	-	-	39	45	0	50	33	378	50	0	0
1868	3 1 2	38	36	520	38	36	520	-	-	-	38	36	0	46	46	687	44	0	0
1970	1 2 3	36	54	530	32	43	530	43	35	320	39	35	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2050	1 2 3	30	53	536	30	35	536	-	-	-	30	35	0	42	44	669	42	0	0
2386	3 2 1	42	42	600	42	42	600	48	43	0	48	43	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2670	2 1 3	22	27	120	22	27	120	22	27	0	22	27	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2704	3 1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	50	430	38	<1	<1
2745	2 3 1	40	34	300	40	34	300	40	34	0	40	34	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3042	3 1 2	41	31	45	41	31	45	41	31	45	41	31	45	42	42	380	40	0	0
3055	1 3 2	42	35	218	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3076	2 3 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3135	1 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	11	900	50	4	0
3159	3 2 1	-	-	-	31	31	550	-	-	-	31	27	0	41	41	478	41	<1	<1
3162	1 2 3	48	54	555	47	36	555	-	-	-	47	36	0	44	45	613	42	0	0
3305	2 3 1	38	40	500	38	30	500	-	-	-	38	30	0	31	53	496	31	0	0
3339	1 3 2	42	34	320	42	34	320	-	-	-	42	34	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3475	3 2 1	70	45	327	70	38	327	-	-	-	70	38	0	49	35	397	49	0	0
3511	1 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.21	6.91	25.67	5.21	<1	<1
3533	1 3 2	0	20	119	26	20	119	10	0	100	0	0	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
3588	1 3 2	31	56	480	31	43	480	27	17	0	27	17	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3593	1 2 3	-	-	-	38	42	464	38	24	0	38	42	0	47	51	175	47	0	0
3730	3 1 2	44	42	560	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	37	300	-	-	-	-	-	-
3868	3 2 1	32	56	420	32	50	420	26	26	5	32	50	0	34	50	430	34	0	0
4015	2 1 3	28	44	468	28	40	468	26	25	245	28	40	0	22	44	520	22	0	0
4064	1 2 3	-	-	-	30	46	285	-	-	-	30	46	214	-	-	-	-	-	-
4180	3 1 2	-	-	-	27	16	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4278	3 2 1	-	-	-	29	3	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4288	2 1 3	30	39	470	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4319	1 3 2	35	54	475	35	38	475	21	0	0	35	38	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
4339	1 3 2	-	-	-	36	42	560	33	36	230	36	42	0	23	17	390	23	0	0
4343	1 3 2	36	45	382	36	37	382	-	-	-	36	37	0	38	54	387	38	0	0
4356	2 3 1	25	45	470	23	38	470	34	27	112	23	38	0	35	24	435	35	0	0
4539	1 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	43	429	43	0	0
4633	3 1 2	-	-	-	39	40	500	30	34	0	30	34	0	36	34	408	36	0	0
4713	1 3 2	36	41	300	36	37	300	28	36	95	36	37	0	27	48	220	27	0	0
4723	3 2 1	60	50	509	60	38	509	29	14	209	60	38	169	-	-	-	-	-	-
4889	2 1 3	-	-	-	29	35	210	-	-	-	29	32	<1	31	31	250	31	<1	<1
4980	2 3 1	14	34	400	14	34	400	33	19	0	33	19	0	42.9	25.4	406	42.9	<1	<1
5018	2 1 3	92	48	290	92	34	290	-	-	-	74	0	0	29	52	328	28	0	0
5094	2 3 1	36	61	800	36	31	800	29	26	0	29	26	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5188	1 3 2	142	113	590	142	106	590	142	106	590	58	58	<1	-	-	344	-	-	<1
5201	1 3 2	31	45	327	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5447	3 1 2	31	56	530	31	37	530	-	-	-	31	37	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5701	1 2 3	34	51	418	34	20	418	34	20	418	34	20	334	36	38	488	36	<1	<1
5893	2 3 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	23	1.1	49	54	0	5.1	1.1	23	23	1.1	1.1
5950	1 3 2	35	61	418	35	45	418	54	34	84	35	45	0	29	41	453	29	0	0
6042	3 2 1	31	60	580	28	60	580	-	-	-	28	60	<1	33	39	490	33	<1	<1
6180	3 2 1	49	60	450	49	36	450	37	54	350	49	36	0	56	34	419	56	0	0
6233	3 1 2	38	37	350	38	37	350	39	39	0	38	37	0	43	32	435	43	0	0
6253	2 3 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	33	523	35	29	0
6456	1 3 2	-	-	-	42	37	520	-	-	-	30	22	<1	34	24	450	34	<1	<1
6731	3 2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7096	2 3 1	37	50	300	37	35	300	38	27	112	38	35	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
7191	2 3 1	13	27	350	13	27	350	11	1	0	11	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
7235	3 1 2	47	42	340	47	34	340	-	-	-	47	29	102	-	-	-	-	-	-
7248	2 1 3	38	44	365	38	34	365	32	33	<1	38	34	<1	39	36	368	39	<1	<1
7302	2 3 1	40	60	473	40	43	473	-	-	-	40	43	0	46	46	687	46	0	0
7330	1 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	32	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
7395	1 2 3	45	67	490	45	52	490	38	36	200	45	52	0	44	26	520	44	0	0
Mean					34	39	399				35	38	0	38	38	446	38	0	0
CV (%)					13	12	18				16	14	-	11	15	17	11	-	-

are mixed up. False positive and false negative values are excluded, as well as other outliers, in the summarizing calculated results at the end of the table. The mean value (Mean) is the square of the mean value for the square root transformed results (mv). The coefficient of variation (CV) is the standard deviation (s) in percentage of the mean value for the square root transformed results. As means to calculate the z-scores of your own, the appropriate values of mv and s are given at the end of the table. The x-values of a laboratory are obtained as the square roots of each reported result, respectively. $z = (x - mv) / s$.

Susp. intestinal enterococci (MF)			Intestinal enterococci (MF)			Susp. Pseudomonas aeruginosa (MF)			Pseudomonas aeruginosa (MF)			Total plate count 22 °C, 3 days			Total plate count 36±2 °C, 2 days			Lab no.
A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	13	15	61	14	1081
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	1	13	-	-	-	1131
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	0	14	-	-	-	1149
-	-	-	140	39	<1	-	-	-	20	<1	<1	27	<1	12	16	13	7	1237
-	-	-	130	66	0	-	-	-	10	0	0	25	2	21	26	66	13	1254
-	-	-	109	64	0	-	-	-	7	0	0	10	0	13	9	35	16	1290
120	80	480	120	80	<1	2	<1	<1	2	<1	<1	25	<1	14	21	52	11	1545
160	81	3	160	81	0	7	0	330	7	0	0	28	1	19	32	72	17	1594
133	63	0	133	63	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	38	2	22	37	67	21	1611
119	75	0	119	75	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	29	2	6	22	45	17	1684
129	66	0	129	66	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	31	2	14	21	55	14	1753
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	1	22	-	-	-	1868
130	71	0	130	71	0	9	23	590	9	0	590	32	0	14	29	49	14	1970
132	75	0	132	75	0	3	62	991	3	0	0	30	4	25	21	34	21	2050
127	79	3	127	79	0	2000	0	0	5	0	0	27	1	13	17	47	20	2386
98	63	0	98	63	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	66	0	2670
-	-	-	103	0	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	11	24	36	67	17	2704
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	940	14	14	-	-	-	2745
88	63	0	88	63	0	11	0	>100	11	0	>100	31	2	21	31	48	10	3042
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	2	7	-	-	-	3055
-	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	0	6	0	0	17	1	11	13	74	14	3076
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0	-	-	-	13	43	9	3135
-	-	-	116	71	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	15	44	23	62	18	3159
143	90	0	143	90	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	27	0	16	33	65	12	3162
105	69	440	105	69	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	23	2	14	24	67	18	3305
140	85	0	140	85	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	24	1	12	35	60	15	3339
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	1	13	26	54	39	3475
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	3.61	-	-	-	3511
70	100	0	70	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	6	-	-	-	3533
115	85	0	115	85	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	34	1	15	25	60	15	3588
-	-	-	115	67	0	-	-	-	10	0	0	18	0	19	22	69	19	3593
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	0	18	-	-	-	3730
96	86	340	96	86	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	32	0	11	30	62	15	3868
105	78	513	105	78	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	1	14	-	-	-	4015
-	-	-	127	58	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	2	11	21	42	11	4064
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0	12	52	9	11	52	9	4180
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	2	12	-	-	-	4278
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	11	16	-	-	-	4288
116	72	427	116	72	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	2	12	24	58	15	4319
-	-	-	120	79	0	-	-	-	20	0	0	1500	1	19	1400	46	19	4339
110	74	309	110	74	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	23	1	9	24	80	15	4343
126	65	0	126	65	0	14	9	430	14	0	0	24	31	12	30	63	18	4356
103	72	0	103	72	0	-	2	63	7	0	0	26	1	45	23	49	>1000	4539
-	-	-	118	90	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	5	15	34	59	13	4633
120	68	37	120	68	0	3	0	190	3	0	0	15	1	16	20	78	24	4713
145	66	500	145	66	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	0	18	-	-	-	4723
-	-	-	120	77	<1	-	-	-	10	<1	<1	17	1	11	-	-	-	4889
132	63	0	132	63	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	1	93	13	39	77	4980
108	58	0	108	58	0	6	0	84	6	0	0	24	3	12	31	64	15	5018
-	-	-	119	79	0	2	0	276	2	0	0	4	1	10	14	58	8	5094
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	<1	6	14	60	5	5188
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	<1	15	-	-	-	5201
132	68	0	132	68	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	24	2	15	25	53	10	5447
103	64	400	103	64	<1	14	<1	301	14	<1	<1	42	<1	13	31	42	8	5701
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5893
150	79	0	150	79	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	32	3	15	45	64	15	5950
180	58	340	180	58	<1	8	<1	440	8	<1	<1	22	1	14	26	47	36	6042
145	69	455	145	69	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	24	2	22	19	61	16	6180
110	73	0	110	73	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	21	1	19	19	74	11	6233
129	75	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	15	-	-	-	6253
-	-	-	200	82	<1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	-	37	13	6456
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	6731
-	-	-	125	73	0	-	-	-	9	0	0	27	1	12	28	48	12	7096
135	89	0	135	89	0	1100	0	270	1100	0	270	9	0	14	11	29	15	7191
108	84	0	108	84	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	0	10	32	69	12	7235
110	79	<1	110	79	<1	<1	<1	228	<1	<1	192	32	1	9	33	58	11	7248
150	90	0	150	90	0	10	0	0	10	0	0	25	1	19	31	110	20	7302
-	-	-	141	83	0	-	-	-	9	0	0	18	4	10	14	10	21	7330
130	57	0	130	57	0	9	0	600	9	0	600	23	3	14	27	42	11	7395
			120	74	0				8	0	0	24	1	14	23	57	14	Mean
			10	7	-				26	-	-	13	71	15	16	11	17	CV (%)

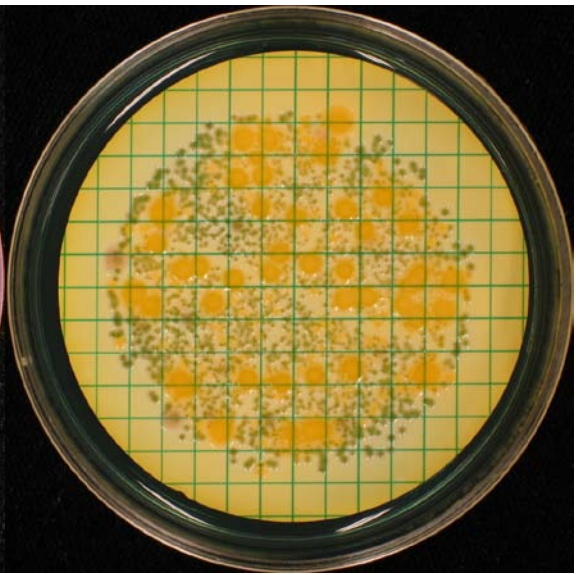
Mixture A

m-Endo Agar LES, 37 °C



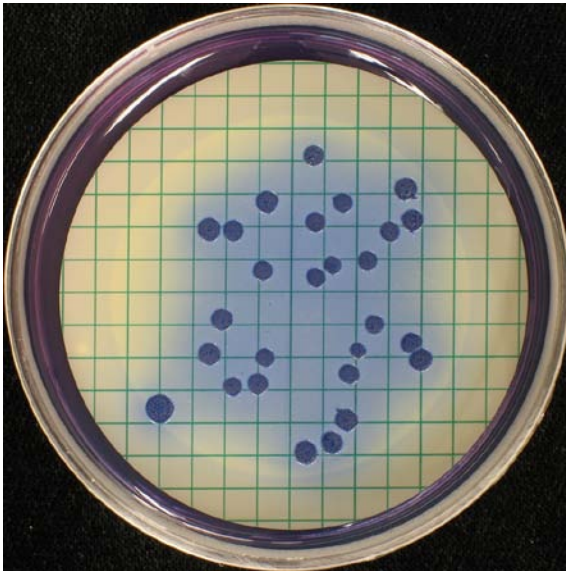
100 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 37 °C



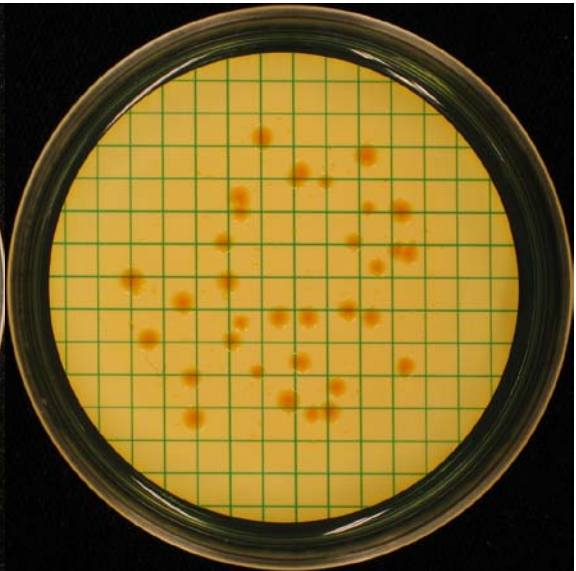
100 ml

m-FC Agar, 44 °C



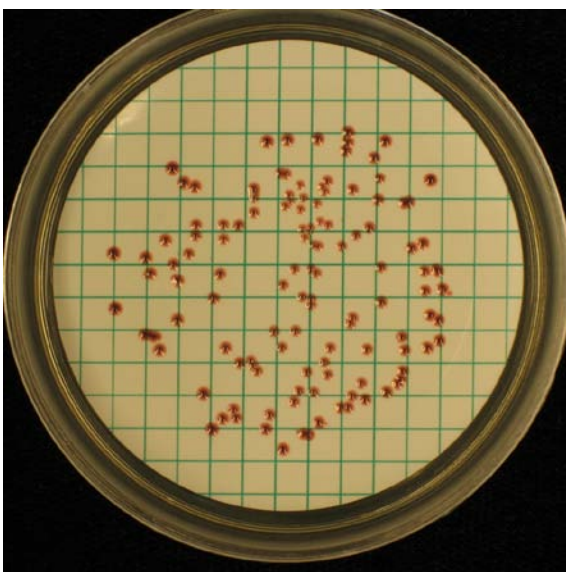
100 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 44 °C



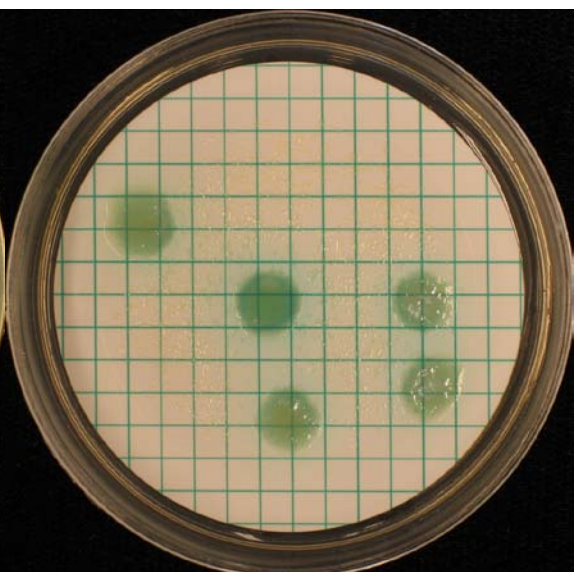
100 ml

m-Enterococcus Agar, 37 °C



100 ml, 2 days

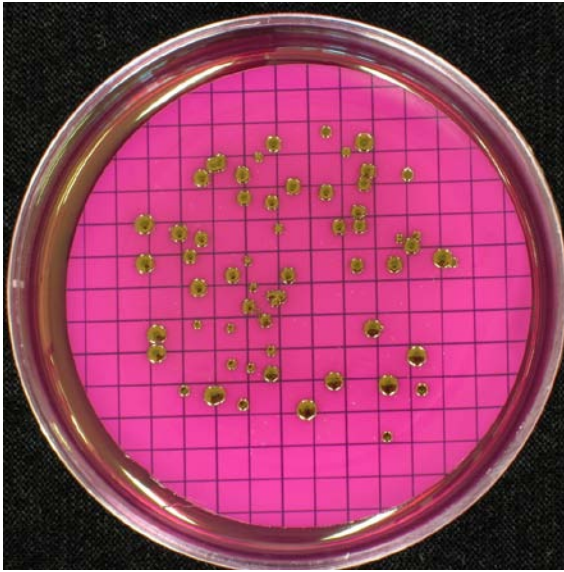
m-Pseudomonas CN Agar, 37 °C



100 ml, 2 days

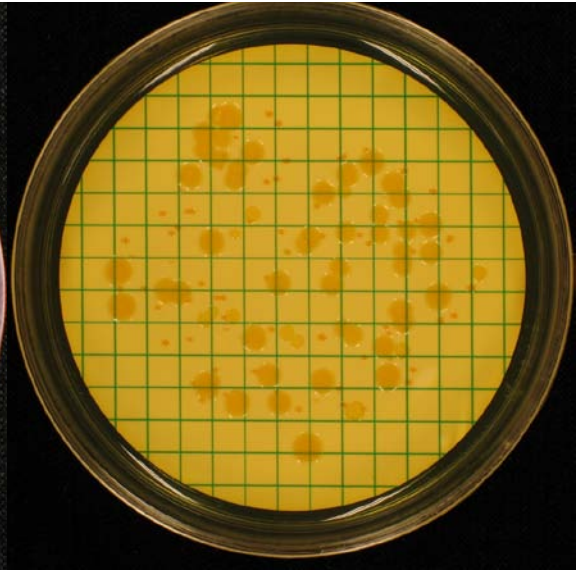
Mixture B

m-Endo Agar LES, 37 °C



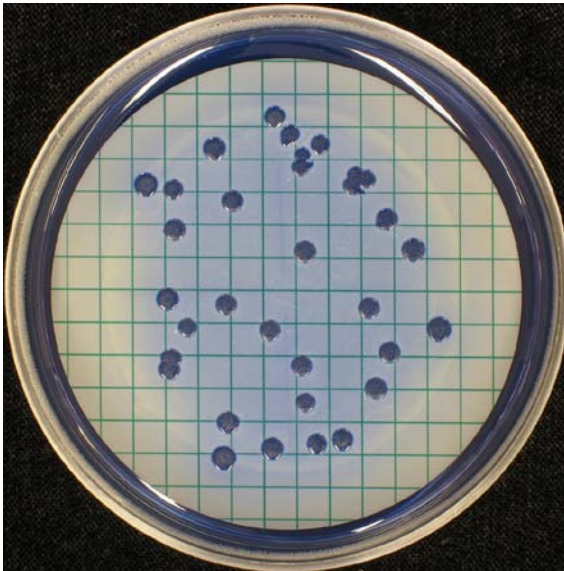
100 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 37 °C



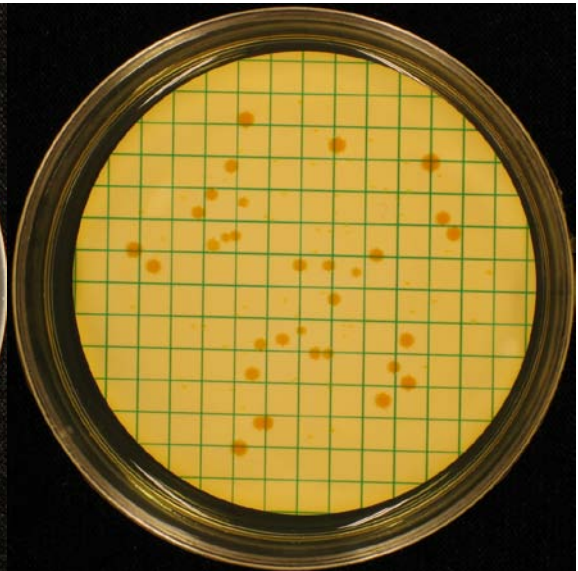
100 ml

m-FC Agar, 44 °C



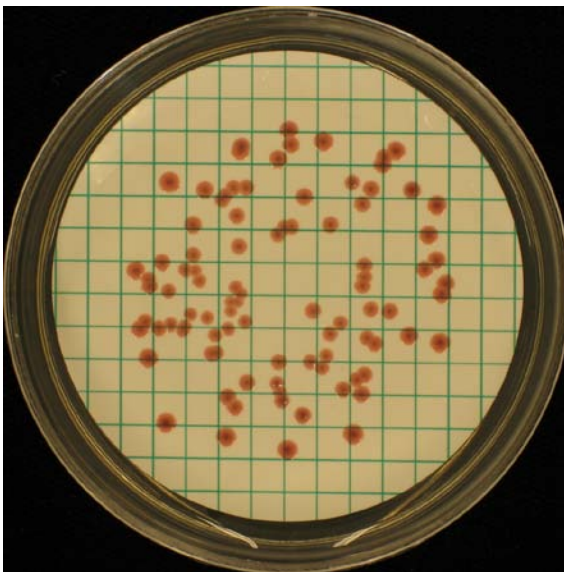
100 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 44 °C



100 ml

m-Enterococcus Agar, 37 °C

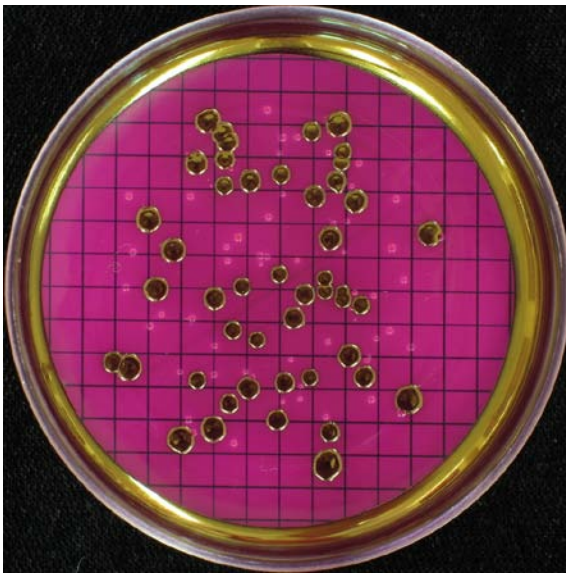


100 ml, 2 days

m-Pseudomonas CN Agar, 37 °C

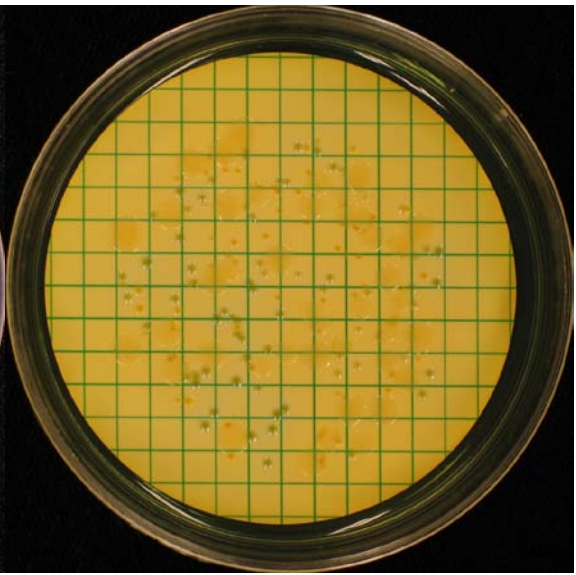
Mixture C

m-Endo Agar LES, 37 °C



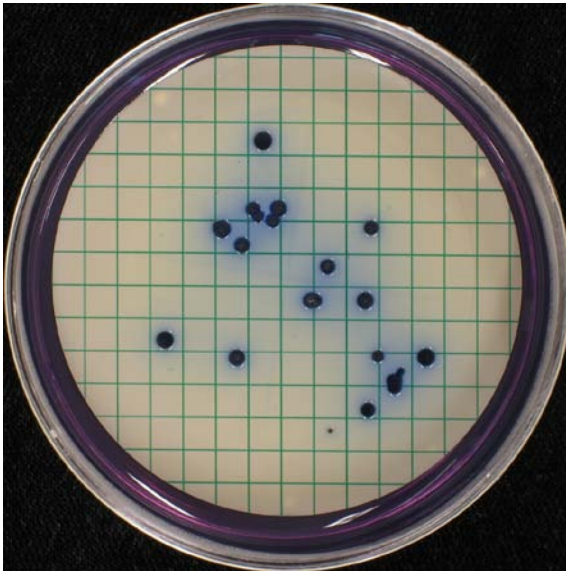
10 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 37 °C



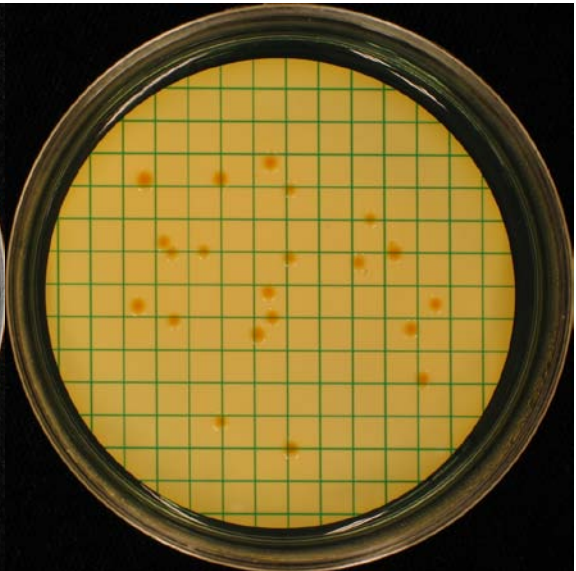
10 ml

m-FC Agar, 44 °C



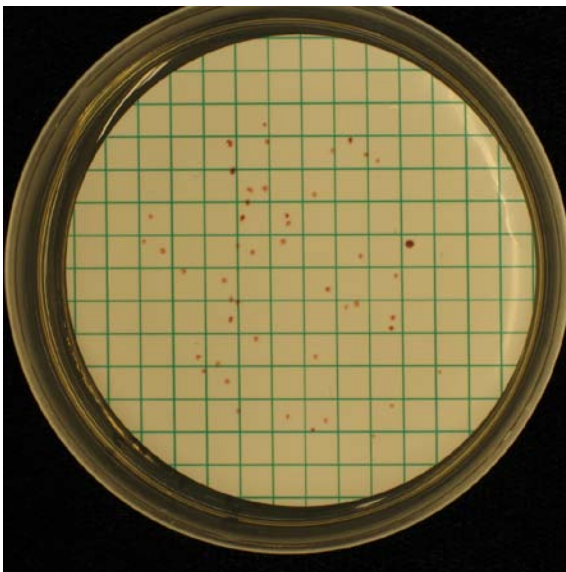
10 ml

m-Lactose TTC Agar, 44 °C



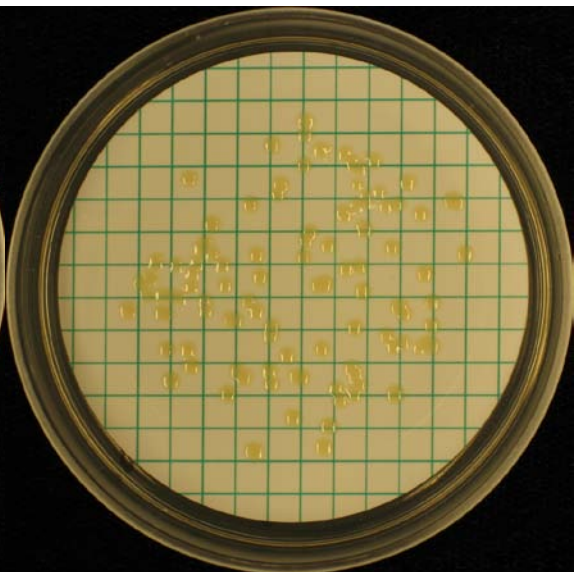
10 ml

m-Enterococcus Agar, 37 °C



10 ml, 2 days

m-Pseudomonas CN Agar, 37 °C



10 ml, 2 days

1. Nedkylning av slaktkroppar (nöt) på gårdsnära slakterier – Kartläggning och utvärdering av ny metodik av R Lindqvist och J-E Eriksson.
2. Proficiency Testing. – Food Microbiology, January 2009 by C Normark and M Olsson.
3. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Nutritional Components of Food, Round N 43 by L Merino.
4. Riskprofil – Mögel och mykotoxiner i livsmedel av E Fredlund, L Abramsson Zetterberg, A-M Thim och M Olsen.
5. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Trace Elements in Food, Round T-18 by C Åstrand and L Jorhem.
6. Kontrollprogrammet för tvåskaliga blötdjur – Årsrapport 2008 – av M Persson och B Karlson.
7. Rapportering av livsmedelskontrollen 2008 av D Rosling.
8. Rapportering av dricksvattenkontrollen 2008 av D Rosling.
9. Proficiency Testing. – Food Microbiology, April 2009 by C Normark, M Olsson and I Tillander.
10. Proficiency Testing. – Drinking Water Microbiology, 2009:1, March by T Slapokas, A Jenzten and M Olsson.
11. Kontroll av rests substanser i levande djur och animaliska livsmedel. Resultat 2008 av I Nordlander, B Aspenström-Fagerlund, A Glynn, A Johansson, K Granelli, E Fredberg, I Nilsson, Livsmedelsverket och K Girma, Jordbruksverket.
12. Fett och fettsyror i den svenska kosten i – Analyser av Matkorgar inköpta 2005 av W Becker, A Eriksson, M Haglund och S Wretling.
13. Färdiga såser, glutenfria produkter och Aloe Vera – analys av näringsämnen av I Mattisson, C Gard, A Staffas och C Åstrand.
14. Kemisk riskprofil för dricksvatten av K Svensson, U Beckman-Sundh, P O Darnerud, C Forslund, H Johnsson, T Lindberg och S Sand.
15. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Nutritional Components of Food, Round N 44 by L Merino.
16. Matförgiftningar i Sverige – analys av rapporterade matförgiftningar 2003-2007 av M Lindblad, A Westöö, R Lindqvist, Livsmedelsverket, M Hjertqvist och Y Andersson, Smittskyddsinstitutet.
17. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Vitamins in Food, Round V-7 by H S Strandler and A Staffas.
18. Riksprojekt 2008. Transfettsyror i kakor/kex och chips – märkning och hlster av L Wallin, S Wretling och I Mattisson.
19. Utbudet av nyckelhålsmärkta färdigförpackade produkter i september 2009 av E Lövestam och A Laser Reuterswärd.
20. Hur annonseras nyckelhålsmärkningen i direktreklam till hushåll av E Lövestam och A Laser Reuterswärd.
21. Rapport från GMO-projektet 2009. Undersökning av GMO-livsmedel – förekomst, spårbarhet och märkning av Z Kurowska.
22. Indikatorer för bra matvanor – resultat från intervjuundersökningar 2008 av W Becker.
23. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Trace Elements in Food, Round T-19 by C Åstrand and Lars Jorhem.
24. Proficiency Testing – Food Microbiology, October 2009 by C Normark and K Mykkänen.
25. Proficiency Testing – Drinking Water Microbiology, 2009:2, September by T Slapokas, C Lantz and M Olsson.

1. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Lead and cadmium extracted from ceramics by C Åstrand and Lars Jorhem.
2. Fullkorn, bönor och ägg – analys av näringsämnen av C Gard, I Mattisson, A Staffas och C Åstrand.
3. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Nutritional Components of Food, Round N 45 by L Merino.
4. Proficiency Testing – Food Microbiology, January 2010 by C Normark and K Mykkänen.
5. Riksprojekt 2009. Salmonella, Campylobacter och E.coli i färska kryddor och bladgrönsaker från Sydostasien av N Karnehed och M Lindblad.
6. Vad gör de som drabbas av magsjuka och matförgiftningar – resultat från en nationell intervjuundersökning av J Toljander och N Karnehed.
7. The Swedish Monitoring of Pesticide Residues in Food of Plant Origin: 2008, Part 1 – National Report by A Andersson, F Broman, A Hellström and B-G Österdahl.
The Swedish Monitoring of Pesticide Residues in Food of Plant Origin: 2008, Part 2 – Report to Commission and EFSA by A Andersson and A Hellström.
8. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Trace Elements in Food, Round T-20 by C Åstrand and Lars Jorhem.
9. Proficiency Testing – Drinking Water Microbiology, 2010:1, March by C Lantz, T Šlapokas and M Olsson.
10. Rapportering av livsmedelskontrollen 2009 av D Rosling och K Bäcklund Stålenheim.
11. Rapportering av dricksvattenkontrollen 2009 av D Rosling.
12. Proficiency Testing – Food Microbiology, April 2010 by C Normark, K Mykkänen and I Boriak.
13. Kontroll av restsubstanser i levande djur och animaliska livsmedel. Resultat 2009 av I Nordlander, B Aspenström-Fagerlund, A Glynn, A Johansson, K Granelli, E Fredberg, I Nilsson, Livsmedelsverket och K Girma, Jordbruksverket.
14. Metaller i fisk i Sverige – sammanställning av analysdata 2001-2005 av B Sundström och L Jorhem.
15. Import av fisk från tredje land – redlighetsprojekt inom gränskontrollen av E Fredberg, P Elvingsson och Y Sjögren.
16. Djurskydd vid slakt – ett kontrollprojekt av C Berg och T Axelsson.
17. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Nutritional Components of Food, Round N 46 by L Merino.
18. Proficiency Testing – Food Chemistry, Vitamins in Food, Round V-8 by H S Strandler and A Staffas.
19. Potatis – analys av näringsämnen av V Öhrvik, I Mattisson, S Wretling och C Åstrand.
20. Proficiency Testing – Drinking Water Microbiology, 2010:2, September by C Lantz, T Šlapokas and I Boriak.

