



Food & Beverage Microbiology Proficiency Testing

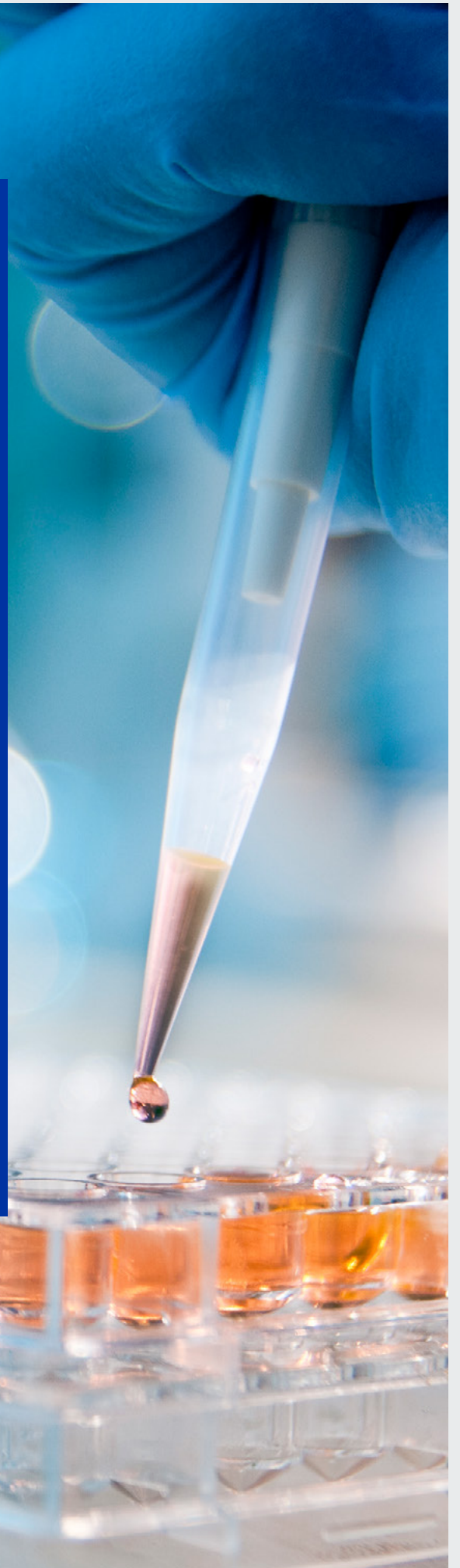
Foods which exceed specifications for total bacterial and fungal load, or which are contaminated with a pathogen, pose a risk to both public health and brand reputation. Modern food processing often involves complicated global supply chains and ample opportunity for foods to be contaminated in their journey to our tables.

Even in a carefully controlled environment contamination can occur, and laboratory analysis is a key safety measure to ensure the process and controls are working as they should. Our microbiology proficiency tests are here to ensure that the laboratory itself is working as it should and is capable of detecting non-conforming product should the biosafety chain be compromised.

Our test materials are designed to simulate real laboratory samples with varying levels of target organisms and background flora, providing a more realistic challenge than some proficiency programmes. In the case of Listeria analysis we even make the cheese ourselves, to ensure the contamination is the same as a real sample. Other matrices include beef, chicken, fish, milk powder, salad, rice and others.



Original thinking... applied



Food & Beverage Microbiology Proficiency Testing Schedule

Materials / Products

Animal feed
Cheese
Chocolate
Chocolate powder
Egg (dried)
Fish
Flour
Fruit juice
Herbs
Infant formula
Meat (beef, chicken, pork, dry cured meat)
Milk powder
Mixed vegetables
Pepper (ground)
Rice (cooked)
Salad
Spice (ground pepper)
Swab

Type of Test / Properties Measured

Enumeration

Aerobic Plate Count (APC)
Alicyclobacillus spp.
Bacillus cereus
Campylobacter spp.
Clostridium perfringens
Clostridium spp.
Coagulase positive staphylococci
Coliforms
E. coli
Enterobacteriaceae
Enterococci
Lactic Acid bacteria
Listeria monocytogenes
Yeasts & moulds

Detection

Campylobacter spp.
Cronobacter sakazakii
E. coli O157
Listeria monocytogenes
Listeria spp.
Salmonella spp.
Vibrio parahaemolyticus



Original thinking... applied

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