



Summary of Results

External Quality Assessment of Food Microbiology Standard Scheme

Distribution Number: 302

Sample Numbers: S0641, S0642

Distribution Date:	February 2018
Results Due:	30 March 2018
Report Date:	27 April 2018
Samples prepared and quality control tested by:	Angela Appea Richard Borrill Thomas Harper Zak Prior Judith Spellar Lili Tsegaye
Data analysed by:	Manchari Rajkumar Nita Patel
Report compiled by:	Joanna Donn Manchari Rajkumar
Authorised by:	Nita Patel

This report must not be reproduced without permission of the organisers.

Public Health England
Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (FEPTU)

61 Colindale Avenue
London
NW9 5EQ

Tel: +44 (0)20 8327 7119
Fax: +44 (0)20 8200 8264
Email: foodeqa@phe.gov.uk

For further information on the scheme please refer to:

Scheme Guide: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/food-and-water-proficiency-testing-schemes-scheme-guide>

Guide to Scoring and Statistics:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/food-and-water-proficiency-testing-schemes-scoring-systems-and-statistics>

General guidance for z-scores:

Participants' enumeration results are converted into z-scores using the following formula:

$$Z = \frac{(X_i - X_{pt})}{\sigma_{pt}}$$

X_i = participants' result (expressed as a log₁₀ value)
 X_{pt} = assigned value (participants' consensus median (expressed as a log₁₀ value))
 σ_{pt} = the fixed standard deviation for the examination (calculated by FEPTU)

The σ_{pt} -value expresses the acceptable difference between the individual participant's result and the participants' consensus median. The σ_{pt} -value used for calculating z-scores for all parameters in the Standard Scheme is 0.35. A guide to interpreting z-scores follows, although laboratories must interpret their scores in the context of their own laboratory situation:

z = -1.99 to +1.99 **satisfactory**
z = -2 to -2.99 or +2 to +2.99 **questionable**
z = < -3.00 or > + 3.00 **unsatisfactory**

It is usually recommended that z-scores exceeding +/-2 are investigated to establish the possible cause. As a general rule, PHE recommends that all questionable and unsatisfactory results are investigated.

FEPTU Quality control: To demonstrate homogeneity of the sample, a minimum of 10 freeze-dried vials, selected randomly from a batch, are tested in duplicate for parameters requiring enumeration and 10 freeze-dried vials are examined for pathogen detection.

To demonstrate stability of the sample, a minimum of nine vials, selected randomly from a batch, are examined throughout the distribution period, either for enumeration or pathogen detection.

FEPTU results are determined using methods based on ISO methods and are included in the 'intended results' letters which provide guidance for participants regarding the assigned values.

The FEPTU results are used for guidance in the preliminary intended results notification, letters are posted on the website immediately after every distribution; electronic notification of their availability is sent to all participants

Refer to section 17.0 of the Scheme Guide if you have experienced difficulties with any of the examinations .

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/food-and-water-proficiency-testing-schemes-scheme-guide>

All participants are reminded that reporting an incorrect or incomplete identification of pathogens from food samples could have serious public health implications. Similarly, the levels of micro-organisms reported in the sample may affect the subsequent outcome for the product.

Participants are reminded that the purpose of scoring is to draw attention to incorrect or outlying results. The results, as summarised in the performance assessment sheet included in this report, provide a more effective indication of on-going problems with food microbiology examinations.

The bar charts in this report are compiled using the processes outlined in the Guide to Scoring Systems and Statistics for the allocation of PHE scores. Z-scores are included on the sample-specific pages only; the relevant sections will be left blank if a z-score does not apply.

Please contact FEPTU staff for advice and information:

Repeat samples	Carmen Gomes or Kermin Daruwalla	Tel: +44 (0)20 8327 7119
Data Analysis	Nita Patel or Manchari Rajkumar	Fax: +44 (0)20 8200 8264
Microbiological advice	Nita Patel or Zak Prior	Email: foodeqa@phe.gov.uk
General comments and complaints	Nita Patel or Zak Prior	FEPTU's website
Scheme consultants	Melody Greenwood and Julie E. Russell	
Scheme Co-ordinator	Nita Patel	

Accreditation: PHE Food EQA Scheme for Standard is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to ISO/IEC 17043:2010.



0006

Sample: S0641

Contents: *Staphylococcus aureus* 7.1x10² (wild strain), *Listeria monocytogenes* 1.2x10² (wild strain), *Lactobacillus plantarum* 1.6x10⁴ (wild strain)

All levels are presented as colony forming units (cfu) per ml reconstituted sample

All levels are presented as colony forming units (cfu) per ml reconstituted sample

Expected Results:

Examination	Expected Result	Your Result	Score	Z-score
Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	<10 cfu g ⁻¹			
Coagulase-positive staphylococci	2.0x10 ² - 2.0x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹			
<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	28 - 2.8x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹			
<i>L.monocytogenes</i>	25 - 2.5x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹			
Aerobic colony count	4.1x10 ³ - 4.1x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹			
Coliform	<10 cfu g ⁻¹			

Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	
Total participants reporting for Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	99
Participants reporting correctly	97 (98%)

Coagulase-positive staphylococci	
Total participants reporting for Coagulase-positive staphylococci	123
Total participants enumerating Coagulase-positive staphylococci	120
Assigned value (participants' median)	6.4x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.81 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{(p)}) = \log_{10} \text{cfu g}^{-1}$)	0.01
No. of outlying counts	6 (3 low / 3 high)
Participants mean	6.6x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.82 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.12 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 6888-1	7.1x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.85 log ₁₀)

Listeria spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	
Total participants reporting for <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	94
Total participants enumerating <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	79
Participants reporting a low censored value	1
Assigned value (participants' median)	90 cfu g ⁻¹ (1.95 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.05
No. of outlying counts	9 (5 low / 4 high)
Participants mean	88 cfu g ⁻¹ (1.95 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.34 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 11290-2	1.2x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.08 log ₁₀)

<i>L.monocytogenes</i>	
Total participants reporting for <i>L.monocytogenes</i>	115
Total participants enumerating <i>L.monocytogenes</i>	102
Participants reporting a low censored value	1
Assigned value (participants' median)	79 cfu g ⁻¹ (1.9 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.04
No. of outlying counts	10 (6 low / 4 high)
Participants mean	78 cfu g ⁻¹ (1.9 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.33 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 11290-2	1.2x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.08 log ₁₀)

Aerobic colony count	
Total participants reporting for Aerobic colony count	125
Assigned value (participants' median)	1.3x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.11 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.01
No. of outlying counts	3 (3 low)
Participants mean	1.3x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.12 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.1 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC median	1.7x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.23 log ₁₀)

Coliform	
Total participants reporting for Coliform	96
Participants reporting correctly	95 (99%)

Total sent samples	135
Non-returns	2
Not examined	3

The fixed standard deviation value (σ_{pt} value) used for calculation of the z-scores is **0.35** for all parameters.

* Robust S^* based on median absolute deviation about the participants' median (*MADe*).

Sample: S0642

Contents: *Bacillus cereus* 3.2x10⁴ (wild strain), *Staphylococcus aureus* 8.2x10³ (wild strain), *Listeria innocua* 1.6x10³ (wild strain), *Listeria monocytogenes* 7.6x10³ (wild strain), *Citrobacter braakii* 9.2x10² (wild strain), *Pediococcus pentosaceus* 3.1x10³ (wild strain)

All levels are presented as colony forming units (cfu) per ml reconstituted sample

All levels are presented as colony forming units (cfu) per ml reconstituted sample

Expected Results:

Examination	Expected Result	Your Result	Score	Z-score
Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	6.8x10 ³ - 6.8x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹			
Coagulase-positive staphylococci	2.4x10 ³ - 2.4x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹			
<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	2.2x10 ³ - 2.2x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹			
<i>L.monocytogenes</i>	1.9x10 ³ - 1.9x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹			
Aerobic colony count	1.2x10 ⁴ - 1.2x10 ⁵ cfu g ⁻¹			
Coliform	2.4x10 ² - 3.5x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹			

Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	
Total participants reporting for Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	99
Total participants enumerating Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i>	96
Assigned value (participants' median)	2.2x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.33 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(\chi_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.03
No. of outlying counts	8 (8 low)
Participants mean	2.0x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.3 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.21 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 7932	3.2x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.51 log ₁₀)

Coagulase-positive staphylococci	
Total participants reporting for Coagulase-positive staphylococci	122
Total participants enumerating Coagulase-positive staphylococci	121
Participants reporting a low censored value	2
Assigned value (participants' median)	7.5x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.88 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(\chi_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.02
No. of outlying counts	4 (3 low / 1 high)
Participants mean	7.6x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.88 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.13 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 6888-1	8.2x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.91 log ₁₀)

Listeria spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	
Total participants reporting for <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	94
Total participants enumerating <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>)	80
Participants reporting a low censored value	1
Assigned value (participants' median)	7.0x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.85 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.02
No. of outlying counts	3 (3 low)
Participants mean	6.7x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.83 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.15 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 11290-2	9.2x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.96 log ₁₀)

<i>L.monocytogenes</i>	
Total participants reporting for <i>L.monocytogenes</i>	114
Total participants enumerating <i>L.monocytogenes</i>	102
Participants reporting a low censored value	2
Assigned value (participants' median)	6.2x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.79 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.02
No. of outlying counts	4 (4 low)
Participants mean	5.9x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.77 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.13 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC medians	
▪ ISO 11290-2	7.6x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.88 log ₁₀)

Aerobic colony count	
Total participants reporting for Aerobic colony count	124
Assigned value (participants' median)	3.9x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.59 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.02
No. of outlying counts	3 (3 low)
Participants mean	3.7x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.56 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.19 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC median	3.0x10 ⁴ cfu g ⁻¹ (4.48 log ₁₀)

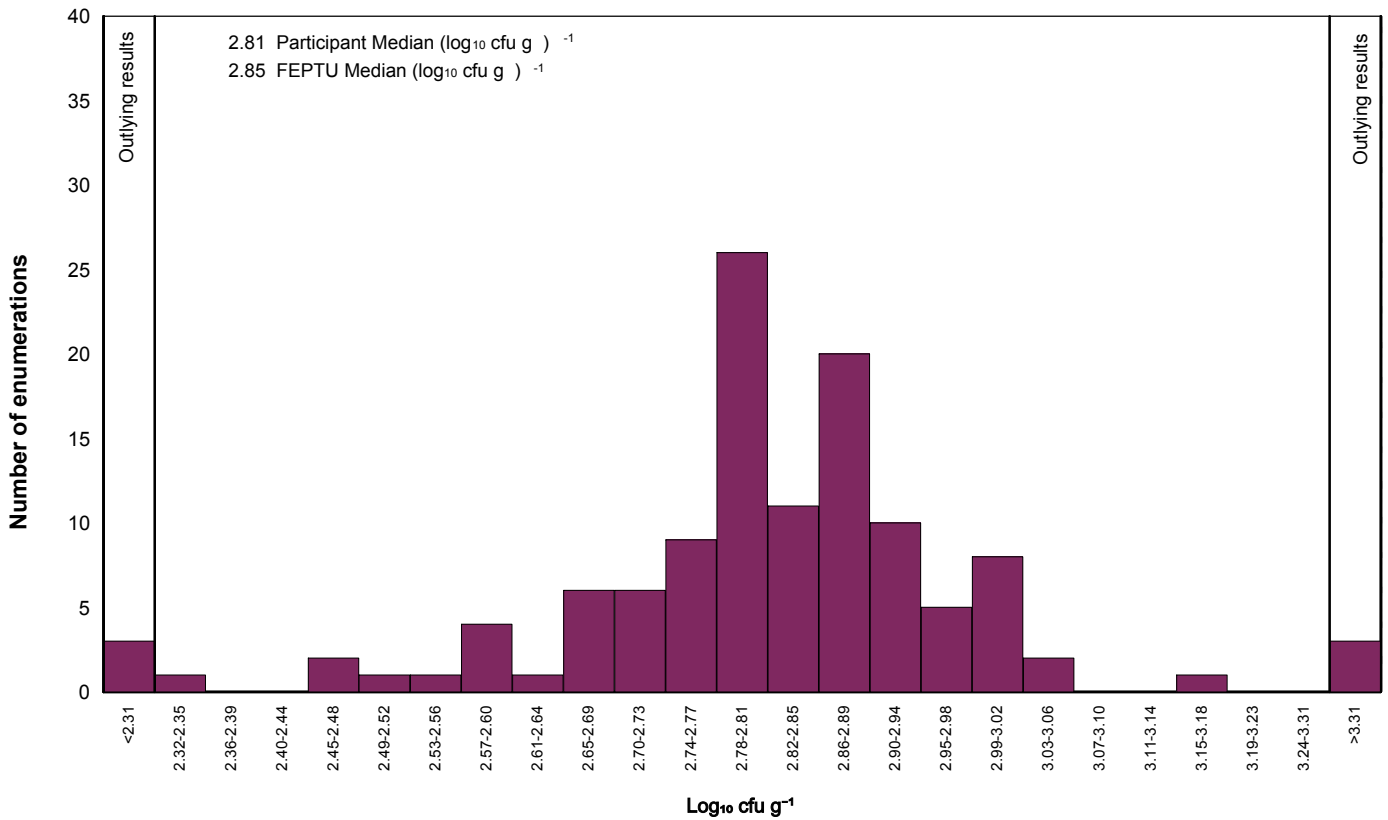
Coliform	
Total participants reporting for Coliform	95
Participants reporting a low censored value	6
Assigned value (participants' median)	1.1x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.04 log ₁₀)
Uncertainty of assigned value ($U(X_{pt})=\log_{10}$ cfu g ⁻¹)	0.04
No. of outlying counts	13 (9 low / 4 high)
Participants mean	1.1x10 ³ cfu g ⁻¹ (3.02 log ₁₀)
Standard deviation of participants results *	0.31 log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹
FEPTU QC median	9.2x10 ² cfu g ⁻¹ (2.96 log ₁₀)

Total sent samples	135
Non-returns	2
Not examined	4

The fixed standard deviation value (σ_{pt} value) used for calculation of the z-scores is **0.35** for all parameters.

* Robust S^* based on median absolute deviation about the participants' median (MAD_e).

Coagulase-positive staphylococci reported by participants - Sample S0641



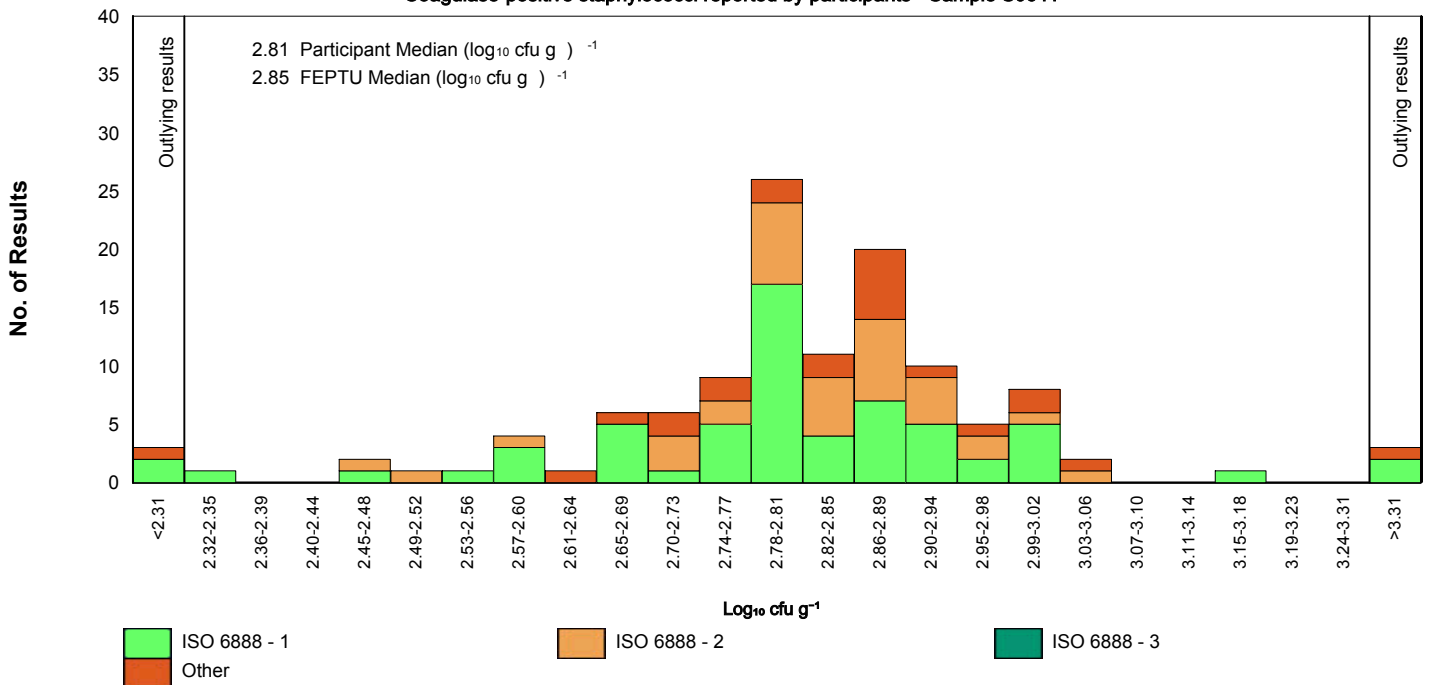
Method based presentation

S0641 : Coagulase-positive staphylococci

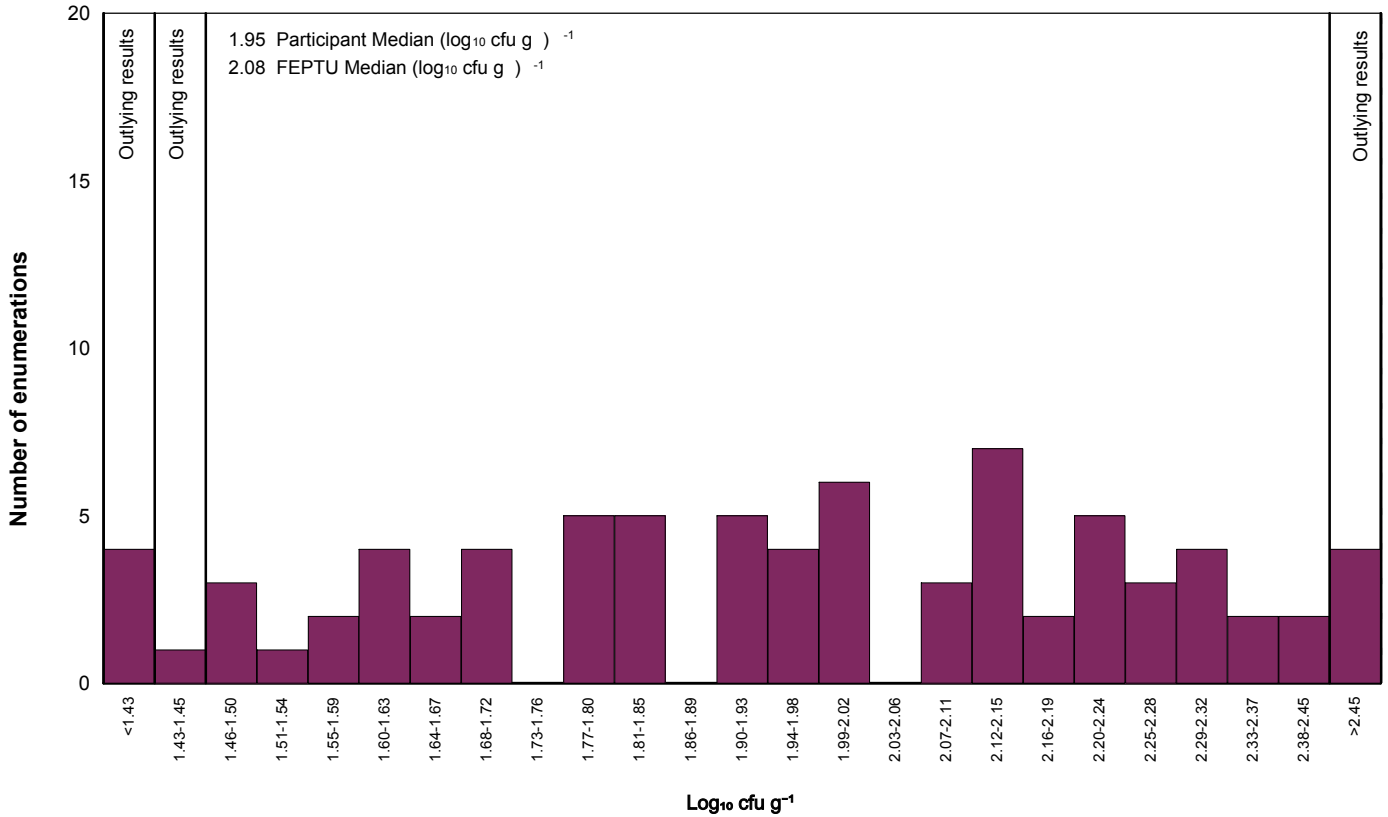
FEPTU Method: ISO 6888 - 1

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 6888 - 1	62	0	51	2.80	0.13	1.60 - 3.93
ISO 6888 - 2	35	0	29	2.85	0.10	2.48 - 3.04
ISO 6888 - 3	0	0	0			-
Other	23	0	19	2.86	0.13	0.00 - 3.74

Coagulase-positive staphylococci reported by participants - Sample S0641



Listeria spp. (including *L.mono*) reported by participants - Sample S0641



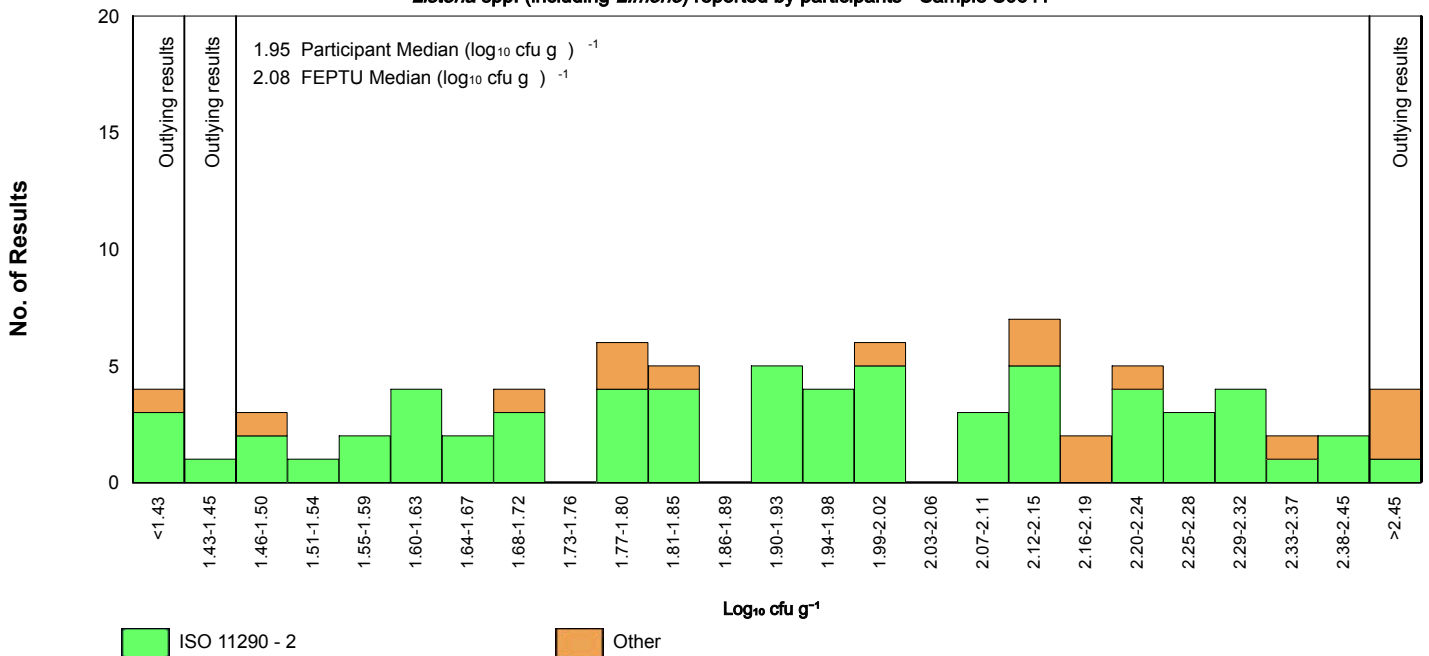
Method based presentation

S0641 : *Listeria* spp. (including *L.mono*)

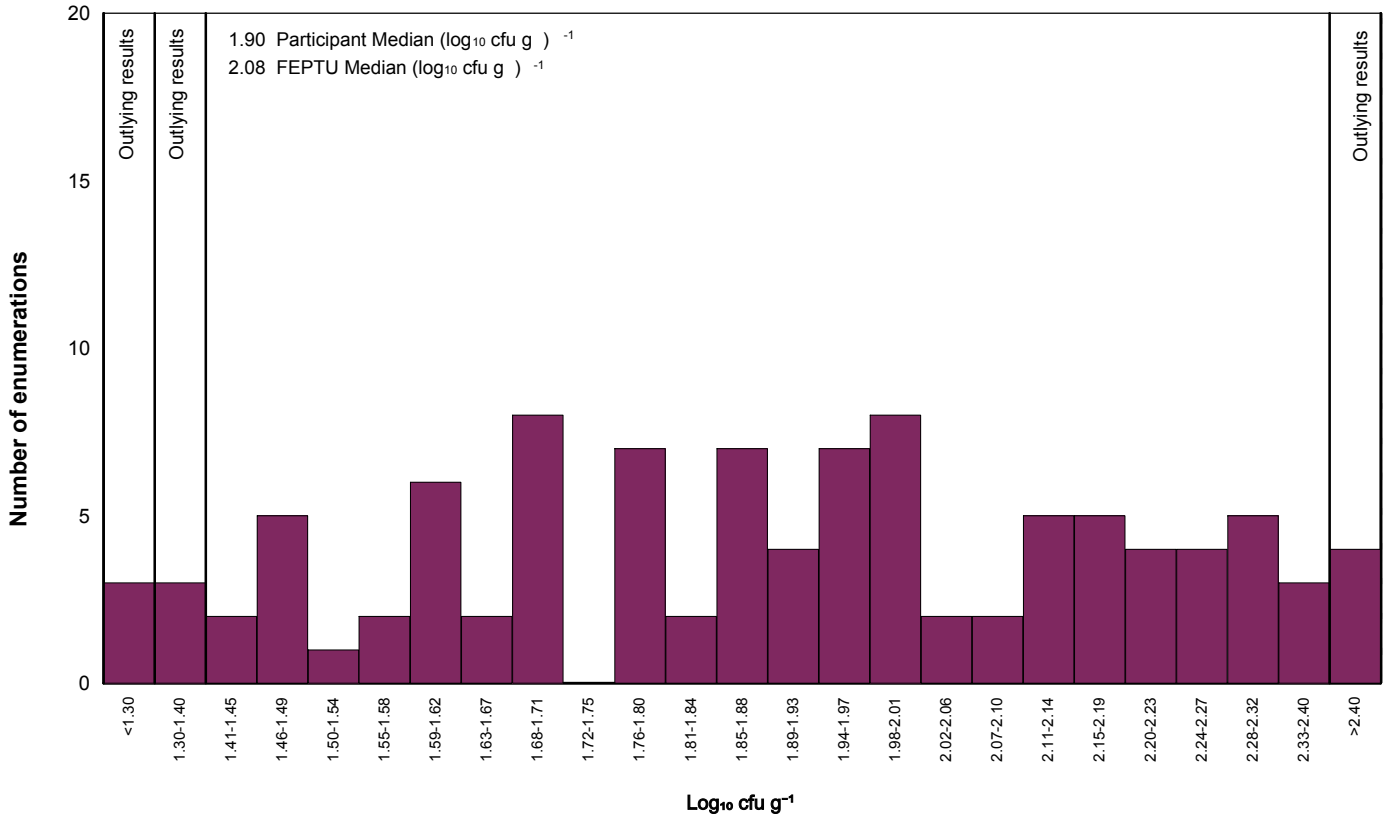
FEPTU Method: ISO 11290 - 2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 11290 - 2	63	1	79	1.95	0.32	1.00 - 2.76
Other	16	0	20	2.13	0.40	1.26 - 2.70

Listeria spp. (including *L.mono*) reported by participants - Sample S0641



L.monocytogenes reported by participants - Sample S0641



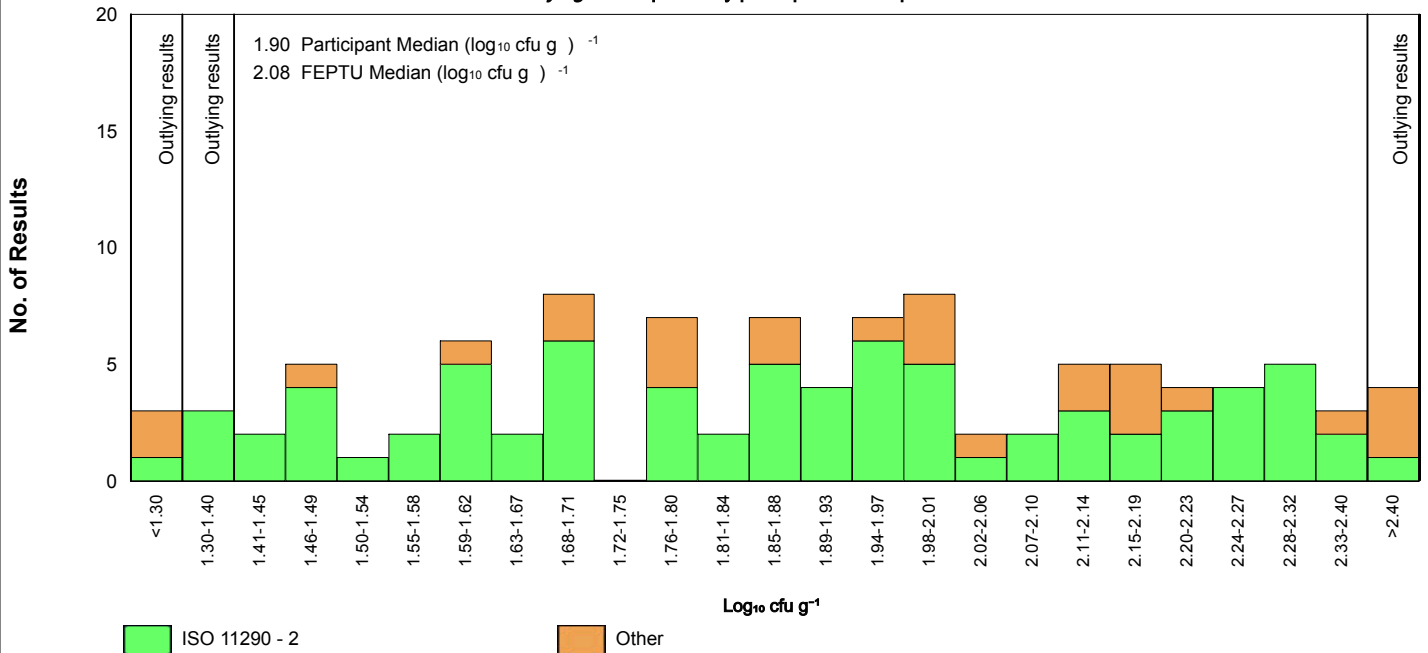
Method based presentation

S0641 : *L.monocytogenes*

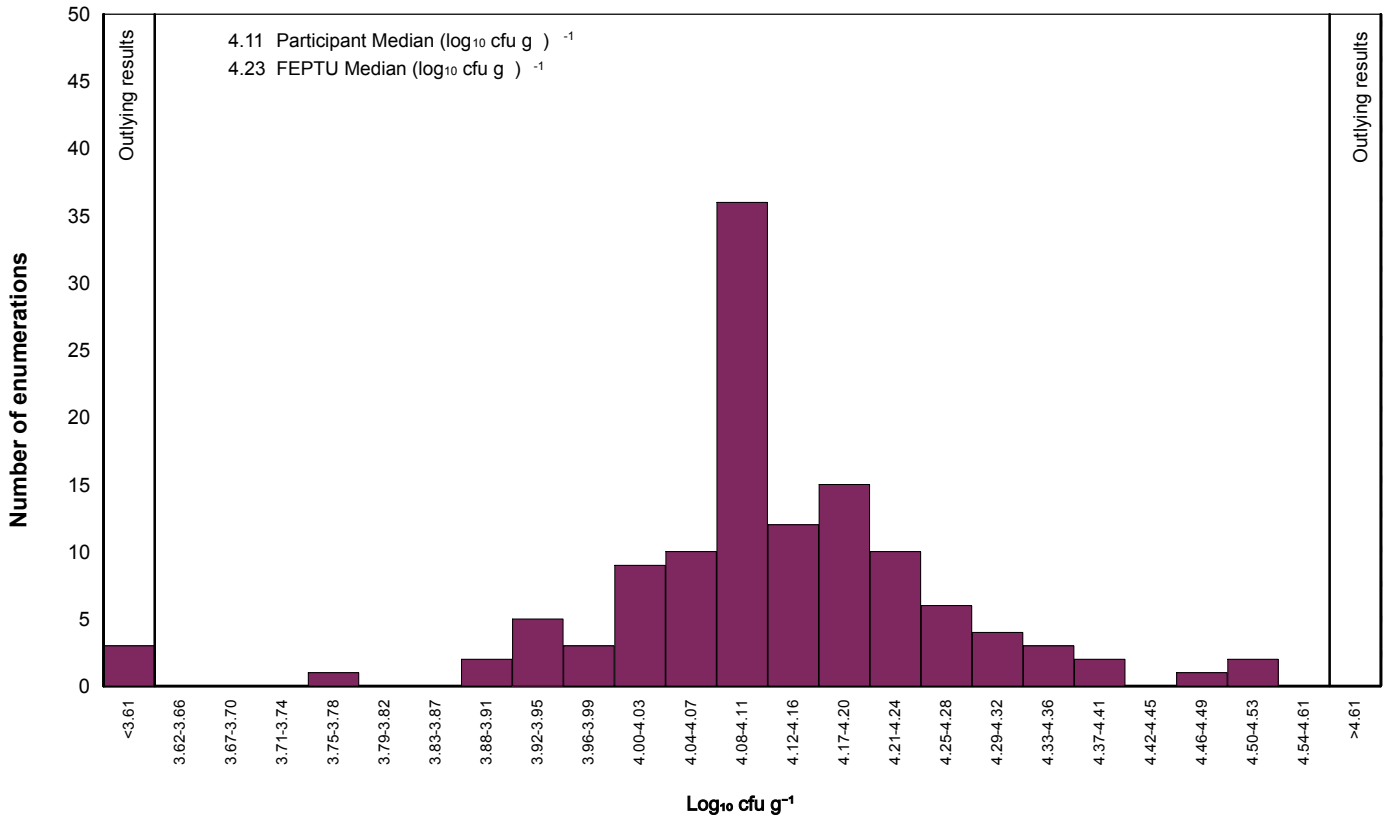
FEPTU Method: ISO 11290 - 2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 11290 - 2	75	0	74	1.89	0.32	1.00 - 2.76
Other	26	0	25	1.99	0.33	1.00 - 2.54

L.monocytogenes reported by participants - Sample S0641



Aerobic colony count reported by participants - Sample S0641



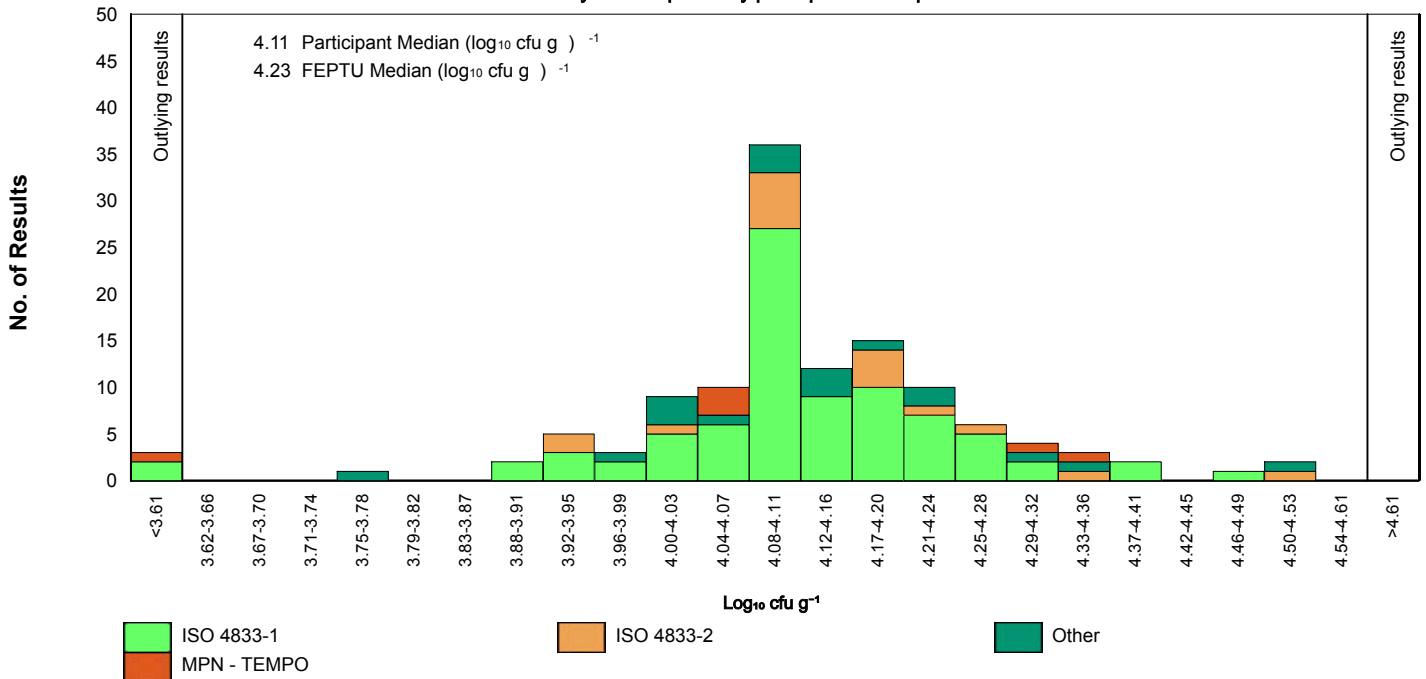
Method based presentation

S0641 : Aerobic colony count

FEPTU Method: ISO 4833-2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 4833-1	83	1	66	4.11	0.09	2.83 - 4.48
ISO 4833-2	17	0	13	4.11	0.11	3.91 - 4.51
Other	18	0	14	4.11	0.14	3.78 - 4.51
MPN - TEMPO	6	0	4			-

Aerobic colony count reported by participants - Sample S0641



Sample S0641

Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Method	Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Media	Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
ISO 7932			0	0
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	30°C/18-48h	2	55
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	37°C/18-48h	0	1
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	30°C/18-48h	2	6
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	37°C/18-48h	0	4
ISO 7932	Chromogenic agar - please state	30°C/18-48h	0	1
ISO 7932	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-48h	0	1
ISO 7932	Other	30°C/18-48h	0	1
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	30°C/18-48h	2	3
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	Other	0	1
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	30°C/18-48h	0	2
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	37°C/18-48h	0	3
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	30°C/18-48h	2	4
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-48h	0	2
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	0	3
Other	Other	30°C/18-48h	1	2
Other	Other	37°C/18-48h	0	2

Sample S0641

Coagulase-positive staphylococci Method	Coagulase-positive staphylococci Media	Coagulase-positive staphylococci Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
ISO 6888 - 1	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/18-24h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 1	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	58	2
ISO 6888 - 1	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h; 37°C/18-24h	0	1
ISO 6888 - 1	Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 1	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/18-24h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/18-24h	5	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/24-48h	25	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	Other	1	0
Other	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	6	0
Other	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	Other	6	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-24h	1	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	1	0
Other	Other	37°C/18-24h	4	1
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	2	0
Other	Other	Other	3	0

Sample S0641

<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Method	<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Media	<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
		37°C/24-48h	0	0
	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar		0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar; Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar; PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Other; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	30	2
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	4	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	4	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	6	1
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	6	1
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	2	0
Other	Other	Other	0	3
Other	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	2	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar	Other	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Other; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	4	1
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	0	1
Other	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other; ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0

Sample S0641

<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Method	<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Media	<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar; Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	4	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	37	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	10	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	4	1
Other	Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	6	0
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	2	0
Other	Other	Other	0	2
Other	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	5	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar	Other	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford Listeria selective agar	Other	1	0
Other	Other; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	7	3
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	0	1
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar	Other	1	0
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1

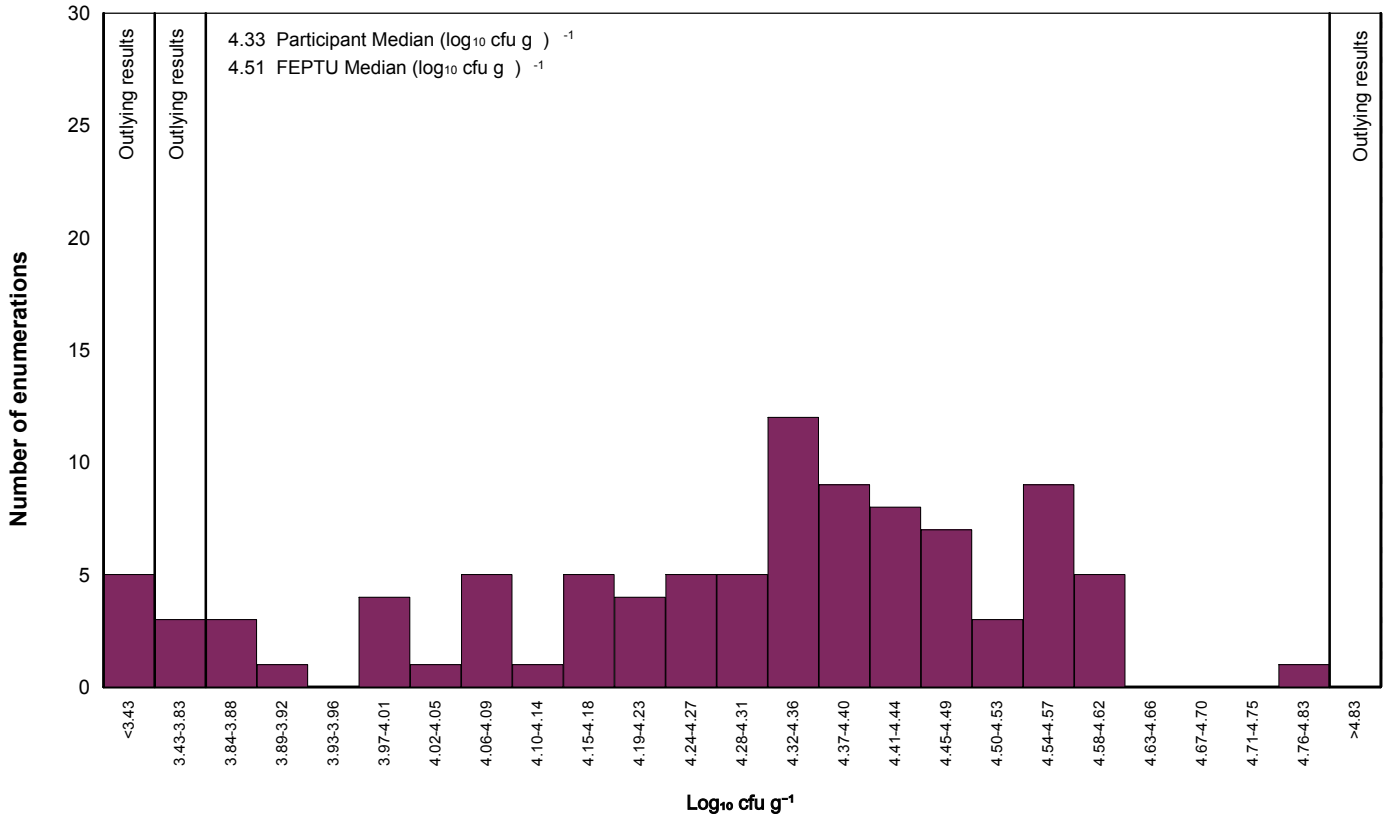
Sample S0641

Aerobic colony count Method	Aerobic colony count Media	Aerobic colony count Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
	Other		0	0
ISO 4833-1	Petrifilm TM	30°C/48h	2	0
ISO 4833-1	Petrifilm TM	30°C/72h	1	0
ISO 4833-1	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	7	0
ISO 4833-1	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	73	2
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	6	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	10	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/72h; 30°C/48h	0	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	37°C/24h	1	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar; Petrifilm TM	30°C/48h	0	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	30°C/48h	3	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	Other	3	0
Other	Other	37°C/24h	1	0
Other	Petrifilm TM	Other	4	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	1	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	3	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/72h; Other	1	0
Other	Plate count agar	37°C/24h	1	0
Other	Plate count agar	Other	7	0

Sample S0641

Coliform Method	Coliform Media	Coliform Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
		37°C/24h	0	0
ISO 4831		37°C/24h	0	0
ISO 4831	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	0	2
ISO 4831	Other	37°C/24h	0	2
ISO 4831	Other	Other	0	1
ISO 4831	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h; 30°C/24h	0	0
ISO 4831	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	0	3
ISO 4831	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	0	3
ISO 4832	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	2	4
ISO 4832	Other	30°C/24h	0	1
ISO 4832	Other	37°C/24h	0	2
ISO 4832	Petrifilm TM	30°C/24h	0	1
ISO 4832	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h	0	1
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	0	16
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	2	23
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	Other	0	1
MPN - TEMPO	Other	30°C/24h	0	1
MPN - TEMPO	Other	Other	0	3
Multiple tube method (MPN)	Other	37°C/24h	0	1
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	1	8
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	0	1
Other	Other	37°C/24h	0	2
Other	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h	0	2
Other	Petrifilm TM	Other	3	3
Other	Petrifilm TM; Other	Other	0	1
Other	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	0	1
Other	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	2	4

Presumptive *B.cereus* reported by participants - Sample S0642



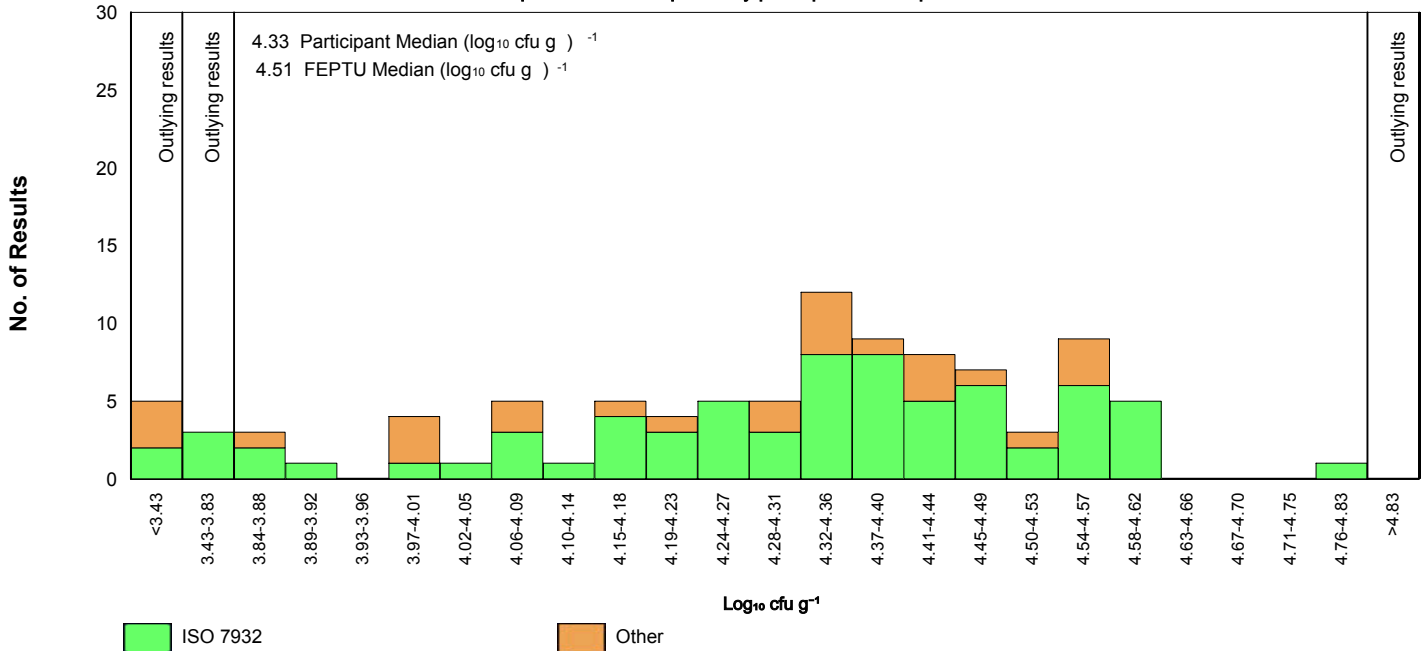
Method based presentation

S0642 : Presumptive *B.cereus*

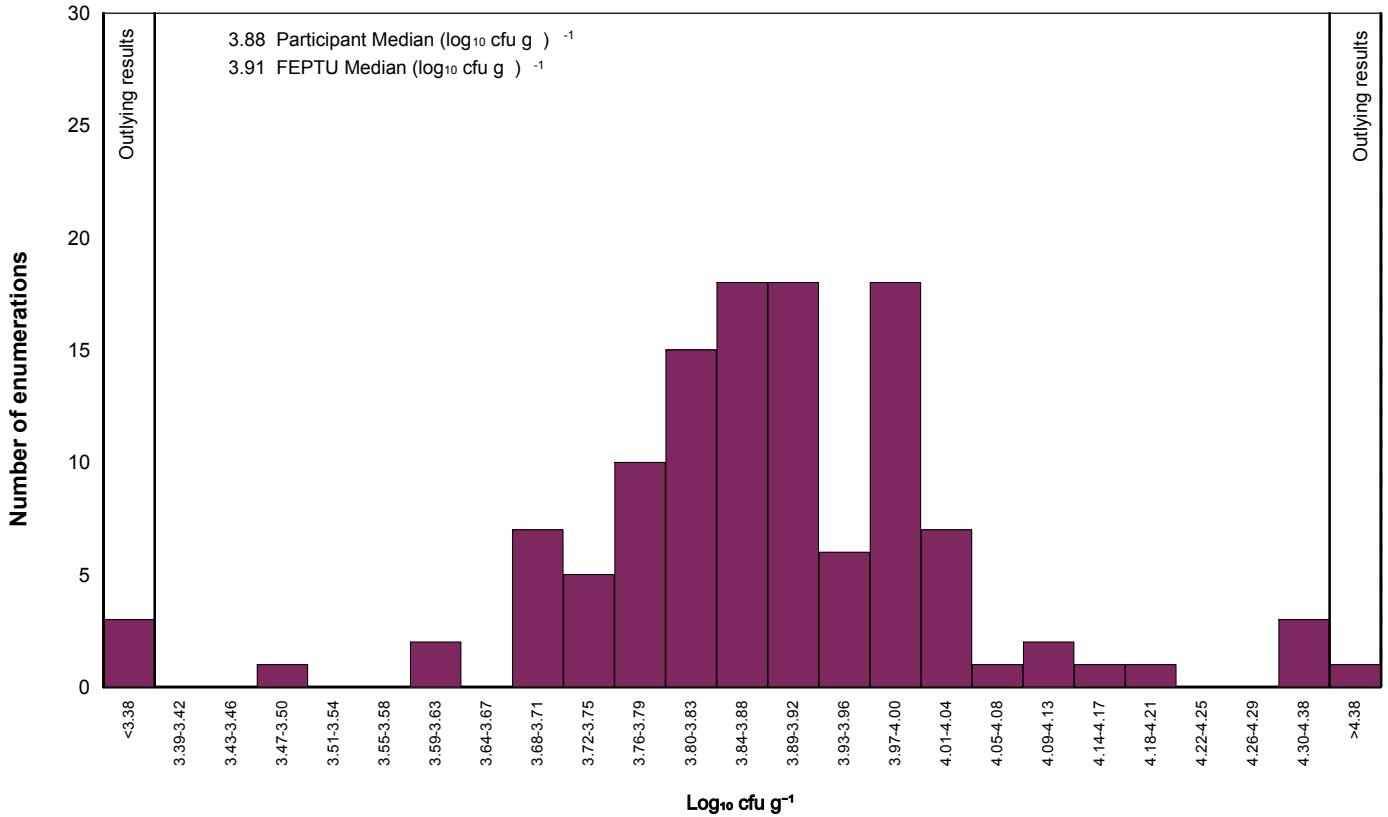
FEPTU Method: ISO 7932

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 7932	70	0	72	4.35	0.20	2.58 - 4.78
Other	26	0	27	4.31	0.24	1.81 - 4.57

Presumptive *B.cereus* reported by participants - Sample S0642



Coagulase-positive staphylococci reported by participants - Sample S0642



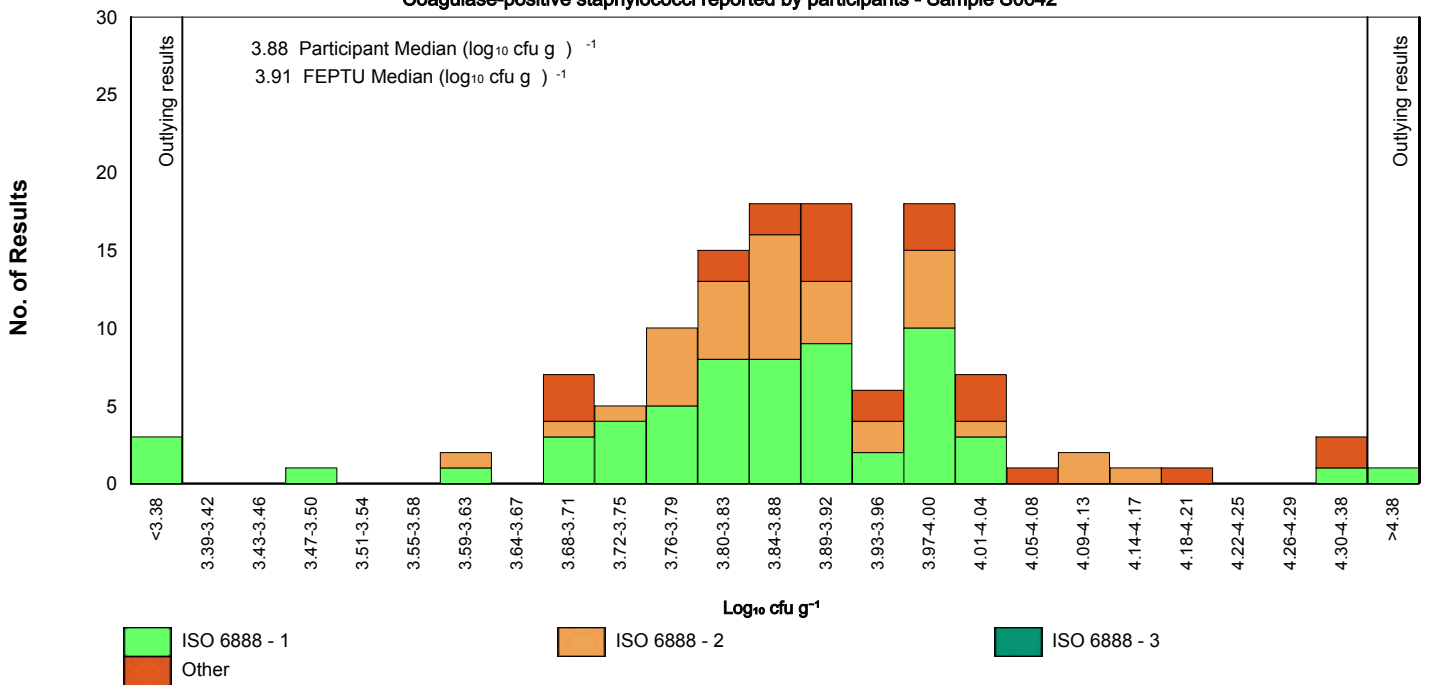
Method based presentation

S0642 : Coagulase-positive staphylococci

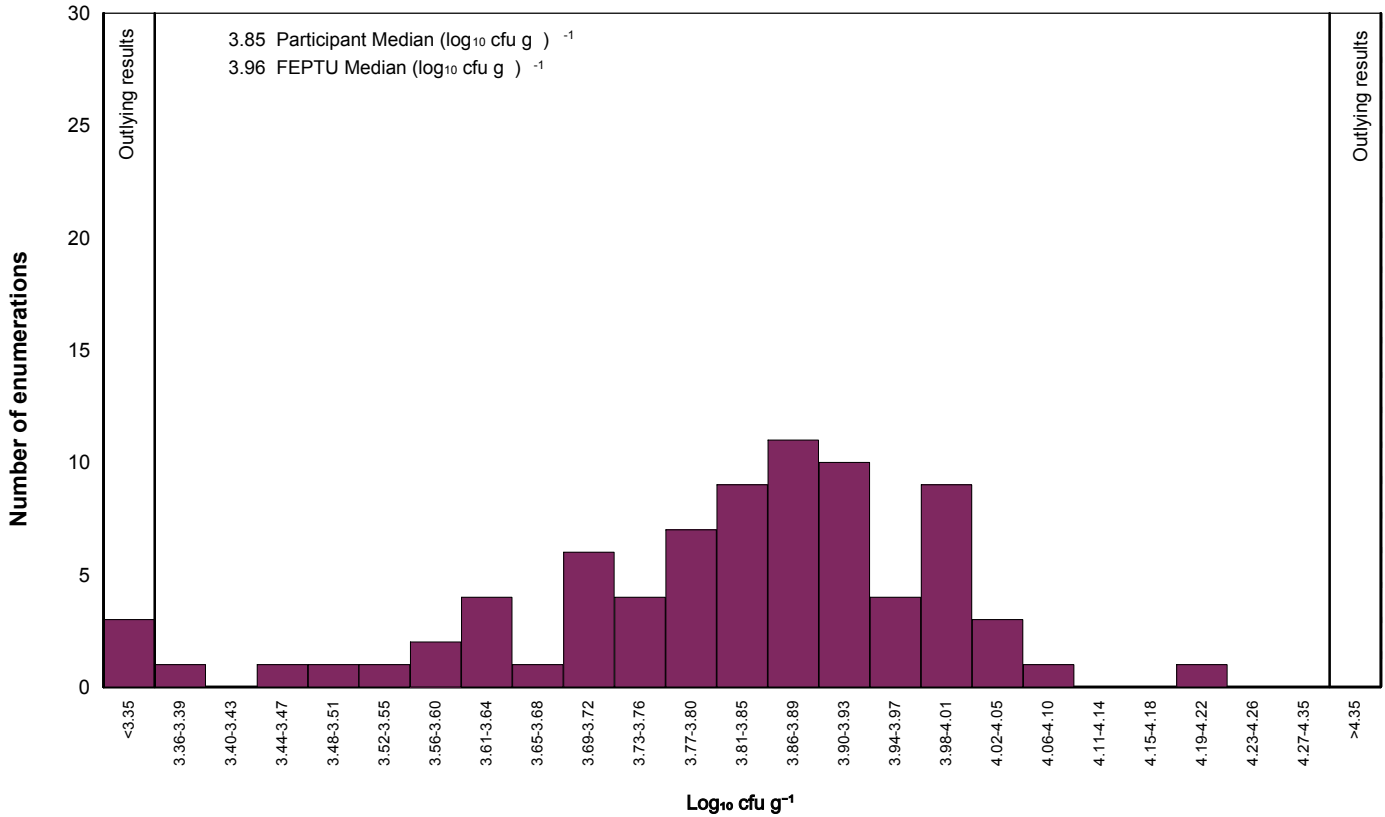
FEPTU Method: ISO 6888 - 1

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 6888 - 1	59	2	49	3.87	0.13	2.67 - 4.53
ISO 6888 - 2	36	0	30	3.88	0.10	3.60 - 4.15
Other	24	0	20	3.92	0.13	3.67 - 4.32

Coagulase-positive staphylococci reported by participants - Sample S0642



Listeria spp. (including *L.mono*) reported by participants - Sample S0642



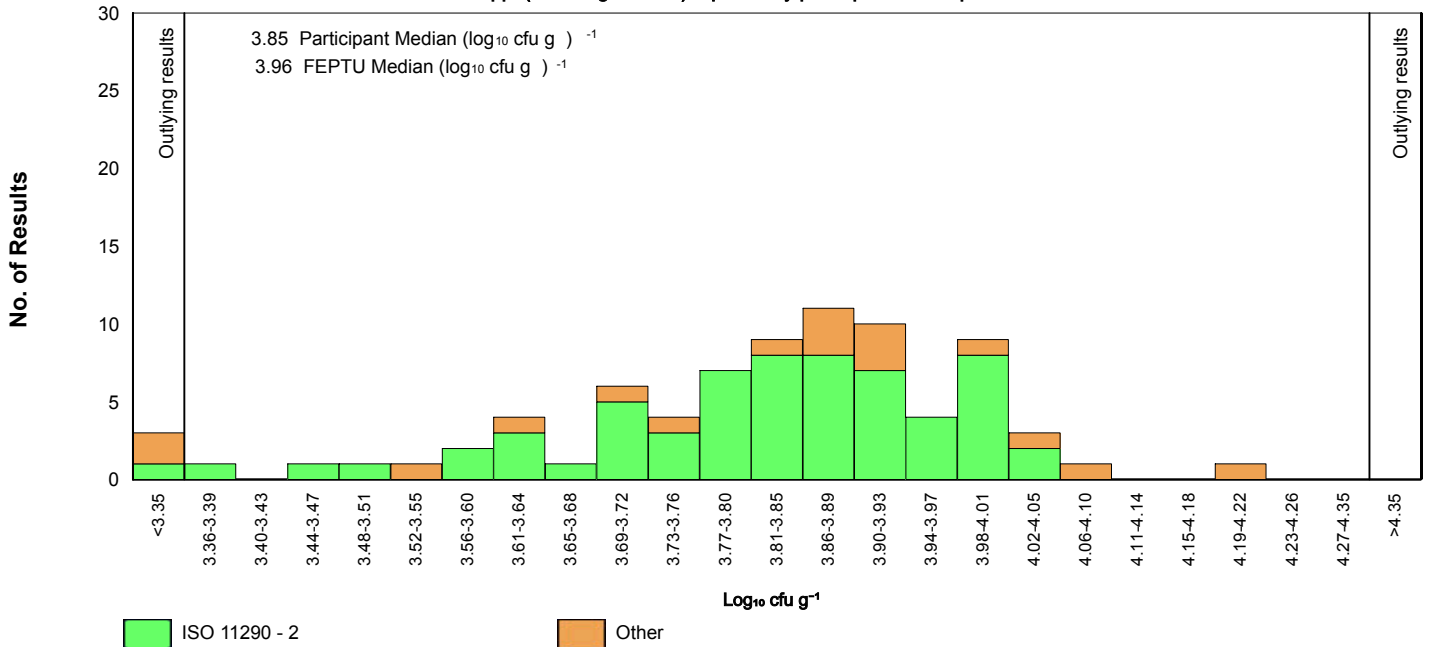
Method based presentation

S0642 : *Listeria* spp. (including *L.mono*)

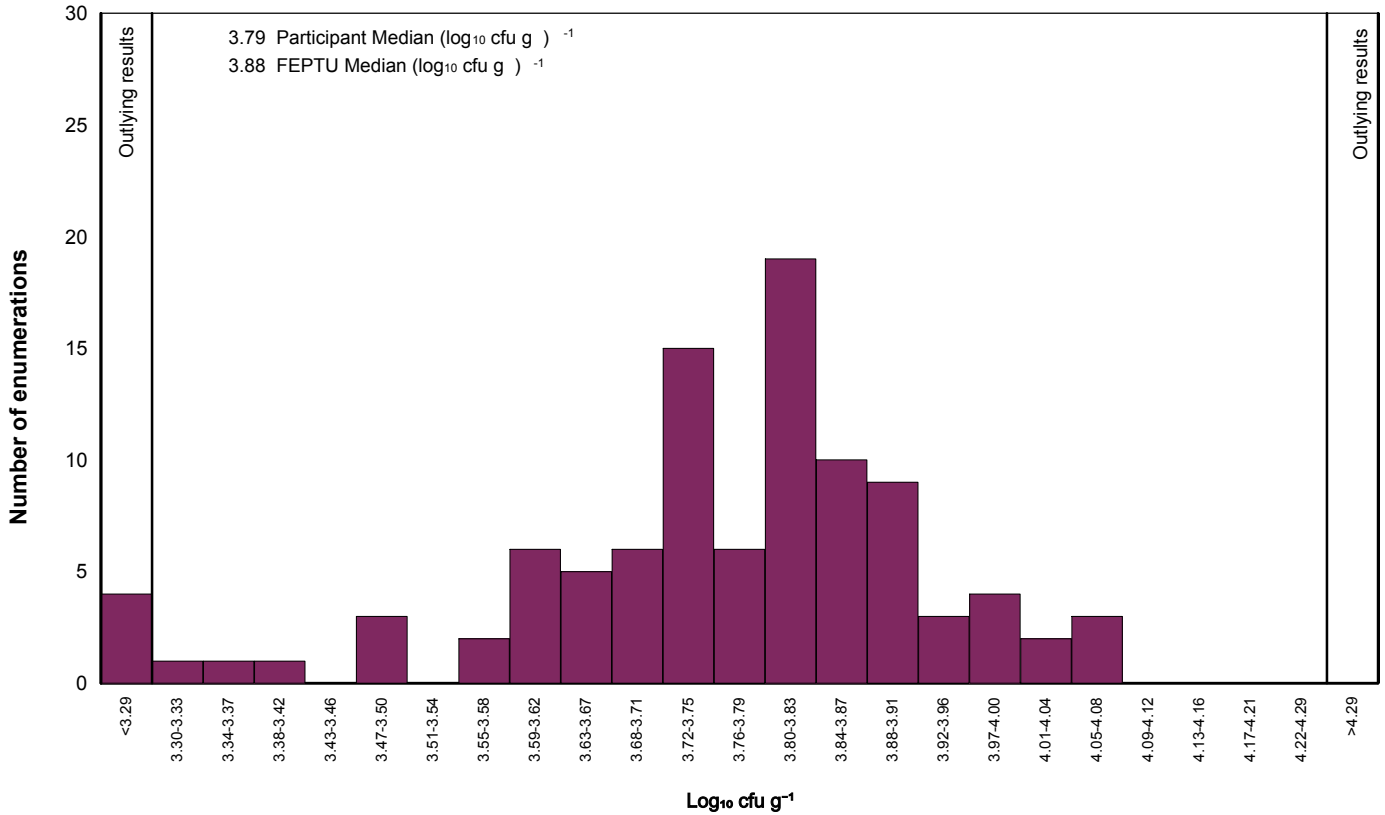
FEPTU Method: ISO 11290 - 2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 11290 - 2	62	1	78	3.83	0.14	3.32 - 4.04
Other	17	0	21	3.88	0.20	2.71 - 4.20

Listeria spp. (including *L.mono*) reported by participants - Sample S0642



L.monocytogenes reported by participants - Sample S0642



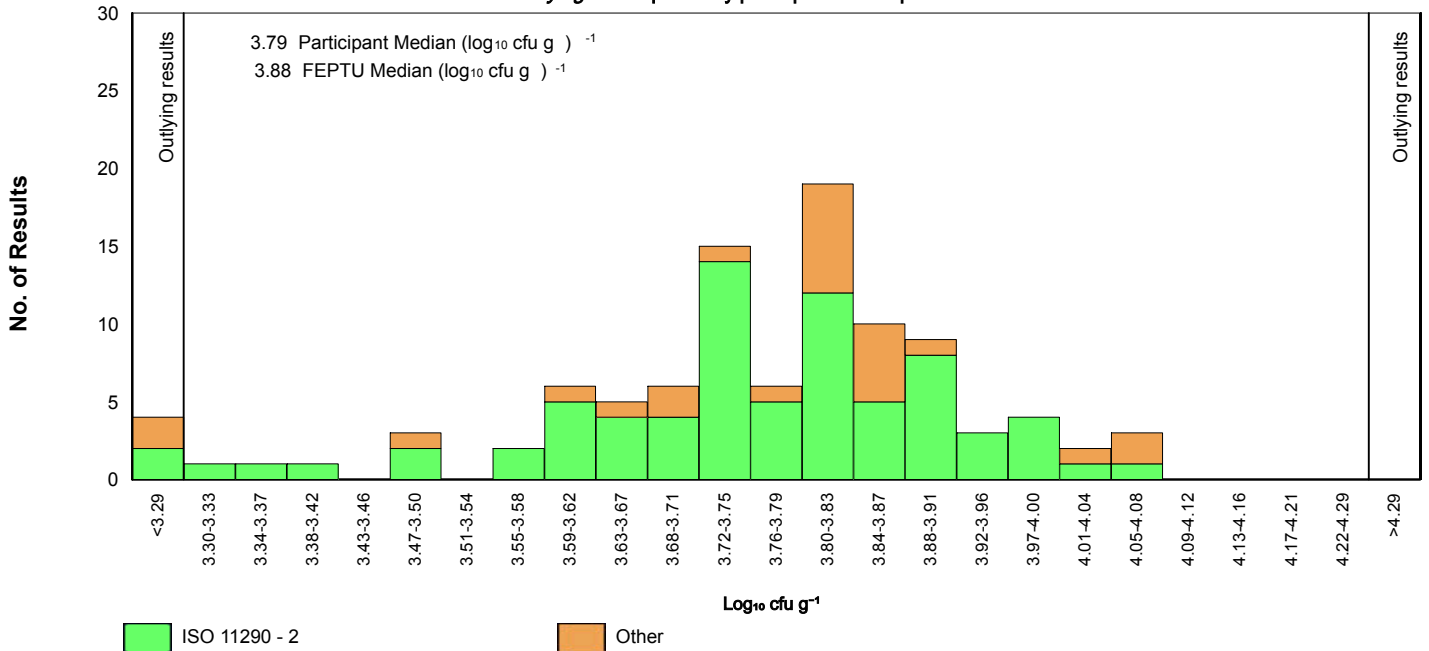
Method based presentation

S0642 : *L.monocytogenes*

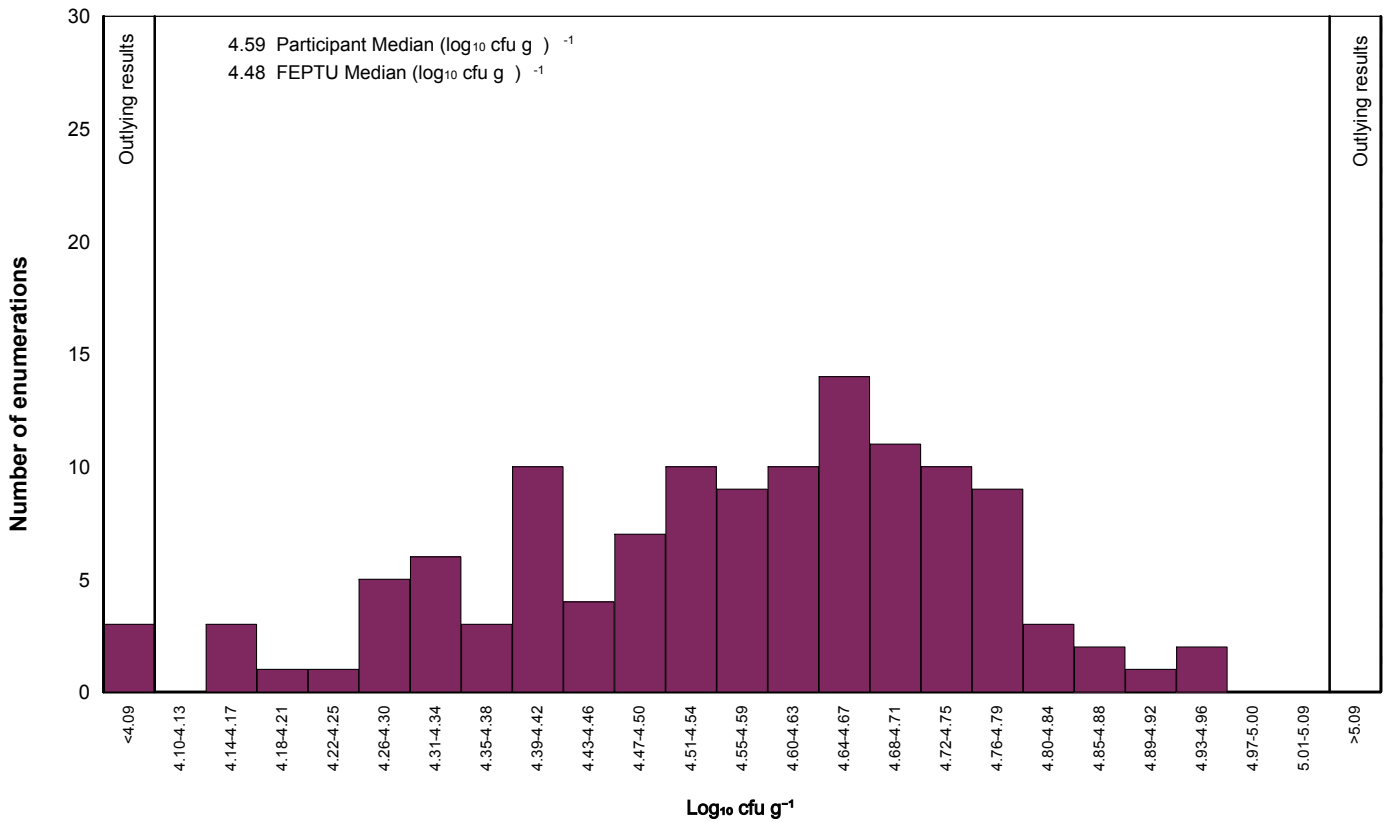
FEPTU Method: ISO 11290 - 2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (Log ₁₀ cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 11290 - 2	75	0	75	3.77	0.14	3.08 - 4.04
Other	25	0	25	3.82	0.09	2.71 - 4.08

L.monocytogenes reported by participants - Sample S0642



Aerobic colony count reported by participants - Sample S0642



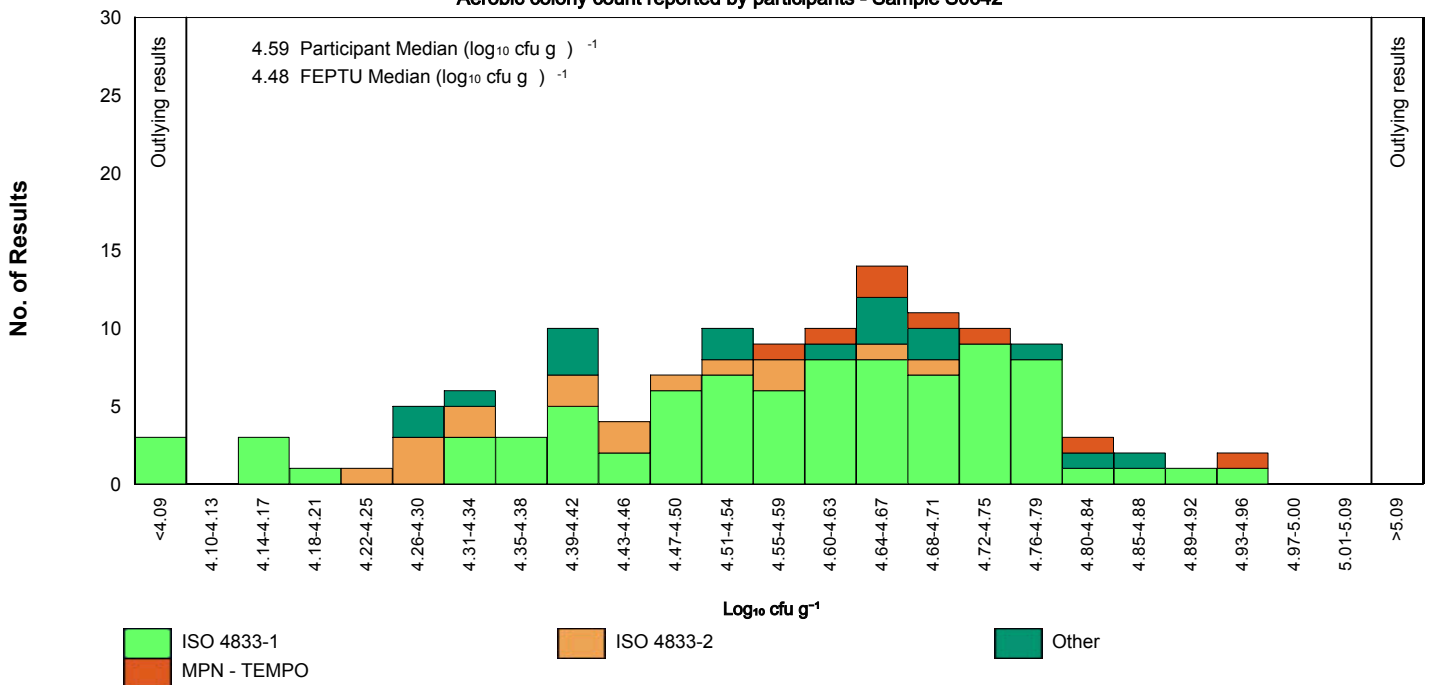
Method based presentation

S0642 : Aerobic colony count

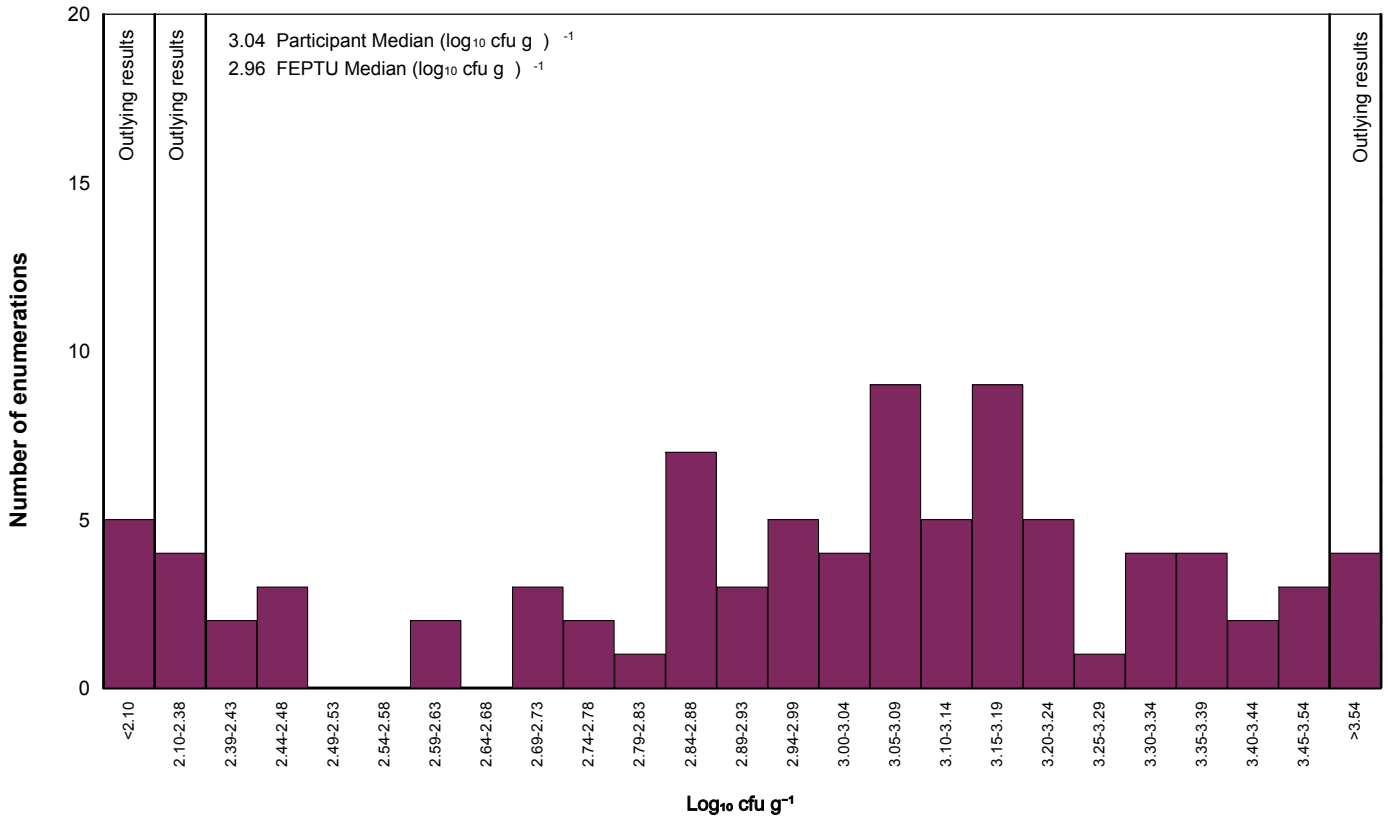
FEPTU Method: ISO 4833-2

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 4833-1	83	0	66	4.60	0.17	2.60 - 4.95
ISO 4833-2	16	0	12	4.42	0.16	4.23 - 4.68
Other	17	0	13	4.61	0.21	4.26 - 4.85
MPN - TEMPO	8	0	6			-

Aerobic colony count reported by participants - Sample S0642



Coliform reported by participants - Sample S0642



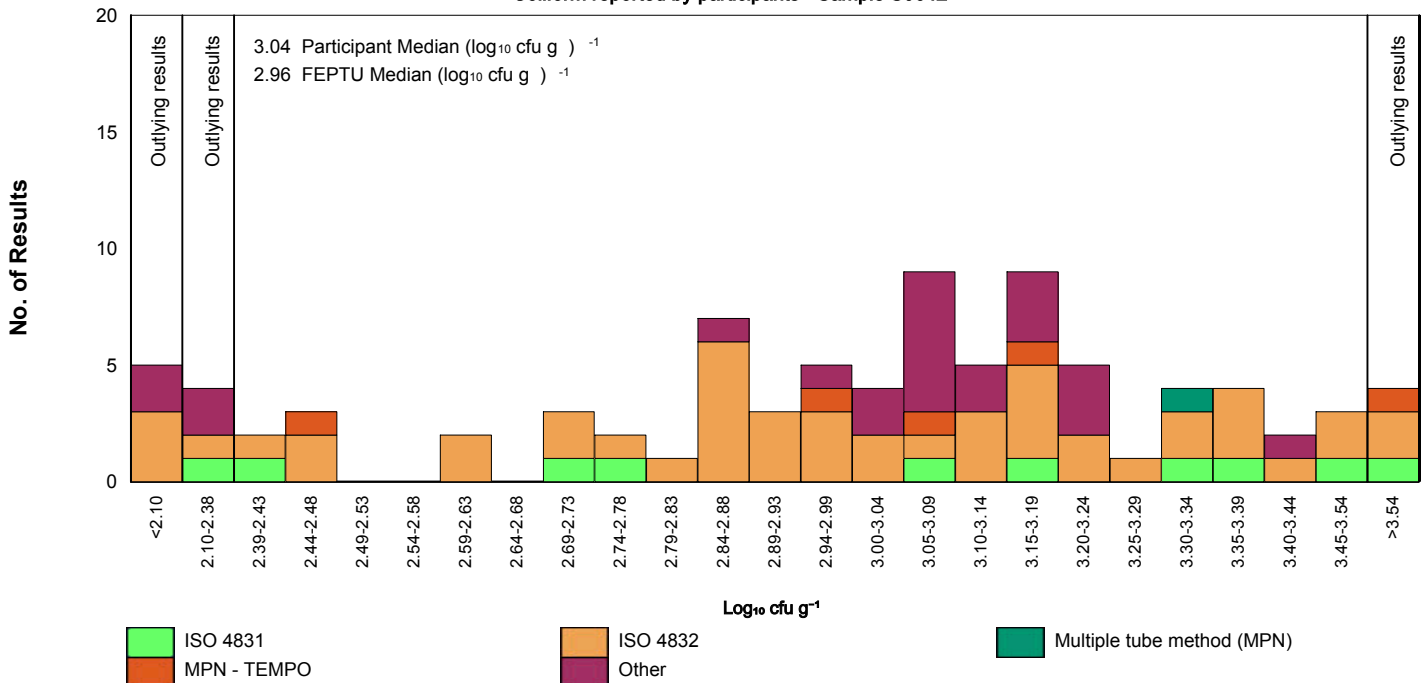
Method based presentation

S0642 : Coliform

FEPTU Method: ISO 4832

Method	Number of Results	Excluded Results	Percentage of the total	Median (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Robust S* (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)	Range Reported (\log_{10} cfu g ⁻¹)
ISO 4831	10	1	11	3.13	0.51	2.12 - 3.56
ISO 4832	48	3	55	2.97	0.35	1.36 - 3.60
Multiple tube method (MPN)	1	0	1			-
MPN - TEMPO	5	0	5			-
Other	23	2	26	3.08	0.15	1.00 - 3.43

Coliform reported by participants - Sample S0642



Sample S0642

Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Method	Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Media	Presumptive <i>B.cereus</i> Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	30°C/18-48h	53	2
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	37°C/18-48h	2	0
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	30°C/18-48h	8	0
ISO 7932	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	37°C/18-48h	4	0
ISO 7932	Chromogenic agar - please state	30°C/18-48h	1	0
ISO 7932	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-48h	1	0
ISO 7932	Other	30°C/18-48h	1	0
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	30°C/18-48h	6	0
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (MYP)	Other	1	0
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	30°C/18-48h	2	0
Other	Bacillus cereus selective agar (PEMBA formulation)	37°C/18-48h	3	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	30°C/18-48h	6	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-48h	2	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	3	0
Other	Other	30°C/18-48h	3	0
Other	Other	37°C/18-48h	0	2

Sample S0642

Coagulase-positive staphylococci Method	Coagulase-positive staphylococci Media	Coagulase-positive staphylococci Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
ISO 6888 - 1	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/18-24h; 37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 6888 - 1	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	56	1
ISO 6888 - 1	Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 1	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/24-48h	2	1
ISO 6888 - 2	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/18-24h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/18-24h	5	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	37°C/24-48h	26	0
ISO 6888 - 2	Rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar (RPF)	Other	1	0
Other	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	37°C/24-48h	6	0
Other	Baird – Parker medium (BPM)	Other	5	0
Other	Baird – Parker medium (BPM); Other	Other	0	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/18-24h	1	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	1	0
Other	Other	37°C/18-24h	4	1
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	3	0
Other	Other	Other	4	0

Sample S0642

<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Method	<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Media	<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L.mono</i>) Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
		37°C/24-48h	0	0
	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar		0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar; Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	30	2
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	7	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	4	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	2	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	6	1
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	2	0
Other	Other	Other	0	3
Other	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	2	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar	Other	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Other; Brilliance <i>Listeria</i> agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Other; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	4	1
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	0	1
Other	PALCAM <i>Listeria</i> selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0

Sample S0642

<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Method	<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Media	<i>L.monocytogenes</i> Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
	PALCAM Listeria selective agar		0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar; Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Brilliance Listeria agar; PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other	Other	0	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	4	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	1	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Other chromogenic agar; Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	39	2
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA); Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	3	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	7	1
ISO 11290 - 2	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
ISO 11290 - 2	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	6	1
Other	Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	6	0
Other	Brilliance Listeria agar; Other	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Other	37°C/24-48h	2	0
Other	Other	Other	0	2
Other	Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	4	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar	Other	0	1
Other	Other chromogenic agar; PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Other; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	37°C/24-48h	6	3
Other	Ottaviani and Agosti agar (ALOA)	Other	0	1
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar	Other	1	0
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	37°C/24-48h	0	1
Other	Oxford Listeria selective agar; Other chromogenic agar	Other	1	0
Other	PALCAM Listeria selective agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0
Other	PALCAM Listeria selective agar; Brilliance Listeria agar	37°C/24-48h	1	0

Sample S0642

Aerobic colony count Method	Aerobic colony count Media	Aerobic colony count Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
	Other		0	0
ISO 4833-1	Petrifilm TM	30°C/48h	3	0
ISO 4833-1	Petrifilm TM	30°C/72h	1	0
ISO 4833-1	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	5	0
ISO 4833-1	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	73	1
ISO 4833-1	Plate count agar	37°C/24h	1	0
ISO 4833-2	Petrifilm TM; Plate count agar	30°C/48h	0	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	6	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/48h; 30°C/72h	0	0
ISO 4833-2	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	10	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	30°C/48h	5	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	Other	3	0
Other	Other	37°C/24h	1	0
Other	Petrifilm TM	Other	4	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/48h	1	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/72h	3	0
Other	Plate count agar	30°C/72h; Other	0	0
Other	Plate count agar	37°C/24h	1	0
Other	Plate count agar	Other	7	0

Sample S0642

Coliform Method	Coliform Media	Coliform Incubation	Count reported	Count censored values
		37°C/24h	0	0
ISO 4831			0	0
ISO 4831	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	2	0
ISO 4831	Other	37°C/24h	1	1
ISO 4831	Other	Other	1	0
ISO 4831	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h; 30°C/24h	0	0
ISO 4831	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	3	0
ISO 4831	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	3	0
ISO 4832	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	5	1
ISO 4832	Other	30°C/24h	1	0
ISO 4832	Other	37°C/24h	2	0
ISO 4832	Petrifilm TM	30°C/24h	0	1
ISO 4832	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h	0	1
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	15	1
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	24	0
ISO 4832	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	Other	1	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	30°C/24h	2	0
MPN - TEMPO	Other	Other	3	0
Multiple tube method (MPN)	Other	37°C/24h	1	0
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	37°C/24h	8	1
Other	Chromogenic agar - please state	Other	1	0
Other	Other	37°C/24h	1	1
Other	Petrifilm TM	37°C/24h	2	0
Other	Petrifilm TM	Other	4	2
Other	Petrifilm TM; Other	Other	0	0
Other	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	30°C/24h	1	0
Other	Violet red bile agar (VRBA)	37°C/24h	6	0

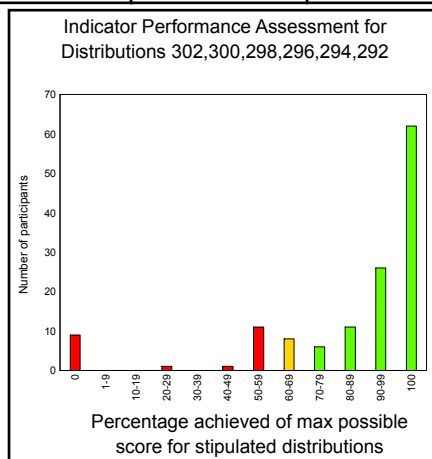
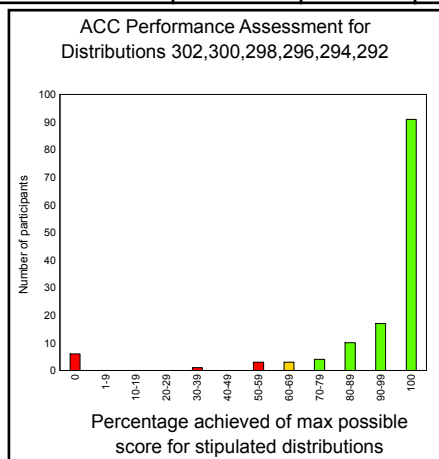
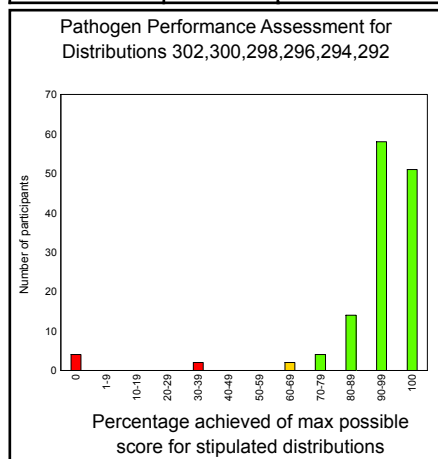
Performance Assessment Sheet

Participants are reminded that to take advantage of the performance assessment overtime tool provided in the reports they need to take part in more than one distribution a year.

Performance assessments are designed to identify laboratories with on-going problems with their examinations and are undertaken after every distribution. Scores are allocated to results reported for every sample to help assess participants' performance.

Cumulative scores are calculated for every participant, for all examination types, for the current and previous five distributions. Participants' cumulative scores for each of the examination types are compared with the maximum possible scores after every distribution.

Distribution	Sample	Examination	Your score	Your %	Sample	Examination	Your score	Your %
302	S0641	Pathogen			S0642	Pathogen		
	S0641	ACC			S0642	ACC		
	S0641	Indicator			S0642	Indicator		
300	S0637	Pathogen			S0638	Pathogen		
	S0637	ACC			S0638	ACC		
	S0637	Indicator			S0638	Indicator		
298	S0633	Pathogen			S0634	Pathogen		
	S0633	ACC			S0634	ACC		
	S0633	Indicator			S0634	Indicator		
296	S0629	Pathogen			S0630	Pathogen		
	S0629	ACC			S0630	ACC		
	S0629	Indicator			S0630	Indicator		
294	S0625	Pathogen			S0626	Pathogen		
	S0625	ACC			S0626	ACC		
	S0625	Indicator			S0626	Indicator		
292	S0621	Pathogen			S0622	Pathogen		
	S0621	ACC			S0622	ACC		
	S0621	Indicator			S0622	Indicator		



Performance Assessment Comment:

Laboratories that achieve less than 70% of the maximum possible score are likely to be experiencing significant problems with their examinations and are advised to

- a) refer to the relevant sample reports for specific comments
- b) refer to the website guidance documents: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/external-quality-assessment-ega-and-proficiency-testing-pt-for-food-water-and-environmental-microbiology>
- c) contact the organisers for advice.

General distribution comment:

Participants are reminded if you do not examine a specific parameter you must return your results as 'Not examined' as this impacts the overall scores awarded.

General comments on methods:

Participants that did not provide information on the method and testing conditions, their data is not included in the method graphs and tables. This information is useful; therefore participants are encouraged to complete these details.

Method based presentation tables for enumeration results:

Participants are advised if less than 10 laboratories report an enumeration result for a method, no data is shown for the Median, Robust SD and the Range Reported. Numbers shown in the 'Excluded Results' column are laboratories that reported a censored value.

Method, media and enrichment/incubation tables:

Participants are asked to note:

- that the count shown in the 'Count reported' or 'Count censored values' column includes data from those laboratories that reported:
 - a censored value
 - a result reported as detected or not detected
 - method data with no results reported.

Participants are reminded that the method data presented in this way has some limitations and seeks to identify trends in the results rather than assess specific method details.

Trend analysis:

Plotting your PT results over a period of time can help to identify potential problems. Download the updated trend analysis spreadsheet one week after this report has been issued:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standard-scheme-trend-analysis>

End of report

