



Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit

The final date for return of results is indicated on the accompanying request/report form

Contact details:

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Results should be returned on-line using the web-based reporting system. Go to: www.phe-eqa.org.uk. You will need your log-in details for this process. Please contact us if you experience problems with the on-line system.

www.gov.uk/government/collections/external-quality-assessment-ega-and-proficiency-testing-pt-for-food-water-and-environmental-microbiology#european-food-microbiology-legislation-scheme

European Food Microbiology Legislation Scheme – Instruction Sheet

Each distribution consists of **three** LENTICULE® discs in screw-cap plastic vials (with desiccant).
The LENTICULE discs require reconstitution by a process of re-hydration and dispersion prior to examination.

Refer also to the Safety Data Sheet: www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-data-sheet-for-lenticules

For a video on sample processing click on the link below and scroll to the bottom of the page:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-food-microbiology-legislation-scheme-sample-instruction-sheets

Storage:

- Store the samples at **-20 ± 5°C** on receipt.
- Allow the LENTICULE discs to reach ambient temperature (5 - 10 minutes) **before** re-hydrating in diluent.

Reconstitution:

- Open the sample container and transfer the LENTICULE disc into **100mL buffered peptone water (BPW)**.
- Leave at ambient temperature for a minimum of 10 minutes to hydrate.
- Ensure that the LENTICULE disc has completely hydrated and disperse the inoculum by inverting approximately 30 times.

Examination:

- **Each reconstituted sample is equivalent to a 100g food sample.**
- Undertake sample examination between 30 - 45 minutes of reconstitution.
- Examine in accordance with routine procedures.

Return of Results:

- Return your results on-line using the web-based reporting system.
- Return results to the organisers before the deadline shown on the request/report form.
- Results returned after that date will not be assessed.