Public Health England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Summary of Results

External Quality Assessment of Food Microbiology

Pathogenic *Vibrio* Scheme

Distribution Number: V053 **Sample Numbers: V046, V147**

Distribution Date:	**June 2018**
Results Due:	**06 July 2018**
Report Date:	**10 July 2018**
Samples prepared and quality control tested by:	**Angela Appea** **Richard Borrill** **Thomas Harper** **Margaret Njenga** **Zak Prior** **Judith Spellar** **Lili Tsegaye**
Data analysed by:	**Joanna Donn** **Nita Patel**
Report compiled by:	**Joanna Donn** **Nita Patel**
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For general information about the scheme please refer to:
Scheme Guide: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/food-and-water-proficiency-testing-schemes-scheme-guide

For more specific information about results assessments, scoring systems, statistics, and guidance on analysing your results for the proficiency testing samples please refer to:
Guide to Scoring :

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

All strains of *V.cholerae* are covered by the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act, 2001.
Public Health England holds a licence from the United Kingdom Department of Trade and Industry for exporting *V.cholerae* to countries in the European Union only. None of the samples will contain strains of *V.cholerae* O1 or O139.

Non-O1 *V.cholerae* does not seem to cause sweeping epidemics, unlike *V.cholerae* O1 and *V.cholerae* O139, but explosive outbreaks have been caused by a few non O1-strains.

European Union (EU) participants
Please be aware that samples containing *V.cholerae* may require an export licence if exported outside the EU.

United Kingdom (UK) participants
The samples contain an organism (*V.cholerae*) that appears on Schedule 5 of the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act, 2001 and is therefore subject to control if you keep this organism. We strongly recommend that you destroy the isolate as soon as you have completed your investigations.

FEPTU Quality Control: To demonstrate stability of the sample, a minimum of ten freeze-dried vials, selected randomly from a batch, are examined throughout the distribution period, either for enumeration or for 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.

Intended results 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 incorrect or incomplete identification of vibrios isolated from food samples could have serious public health implications. Similarly, the levels of vibrios reported in the sample may affect the subsequent outcome for the product.

Scores are not allocated for results reported for the Pathogenic Vibrio Scheme.

Please contact FEPTU staff for advice and information:

Repeat samples	Carmen Gomes or Kermin Daruwalla	**Tel:** **+44 (0)20 8327 7119**
Data Analysis	Manchari Rajkumar or Nita Patel	**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 Pathogenic *Vibrio* is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to ISO/IEC 17043:2010.

UKAS PROFICIENCY TESTING
0006

Sample: V0146

Contents

Vibrio parahaemolyticus 2.0x10³ (wild strain), *Vibrio vulnificus* 2.5x10² (wild strain), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* 1.3x10⁴ (wild strain), *Staphylococcus epidermidis* 5.0x10³ (wild strain)

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

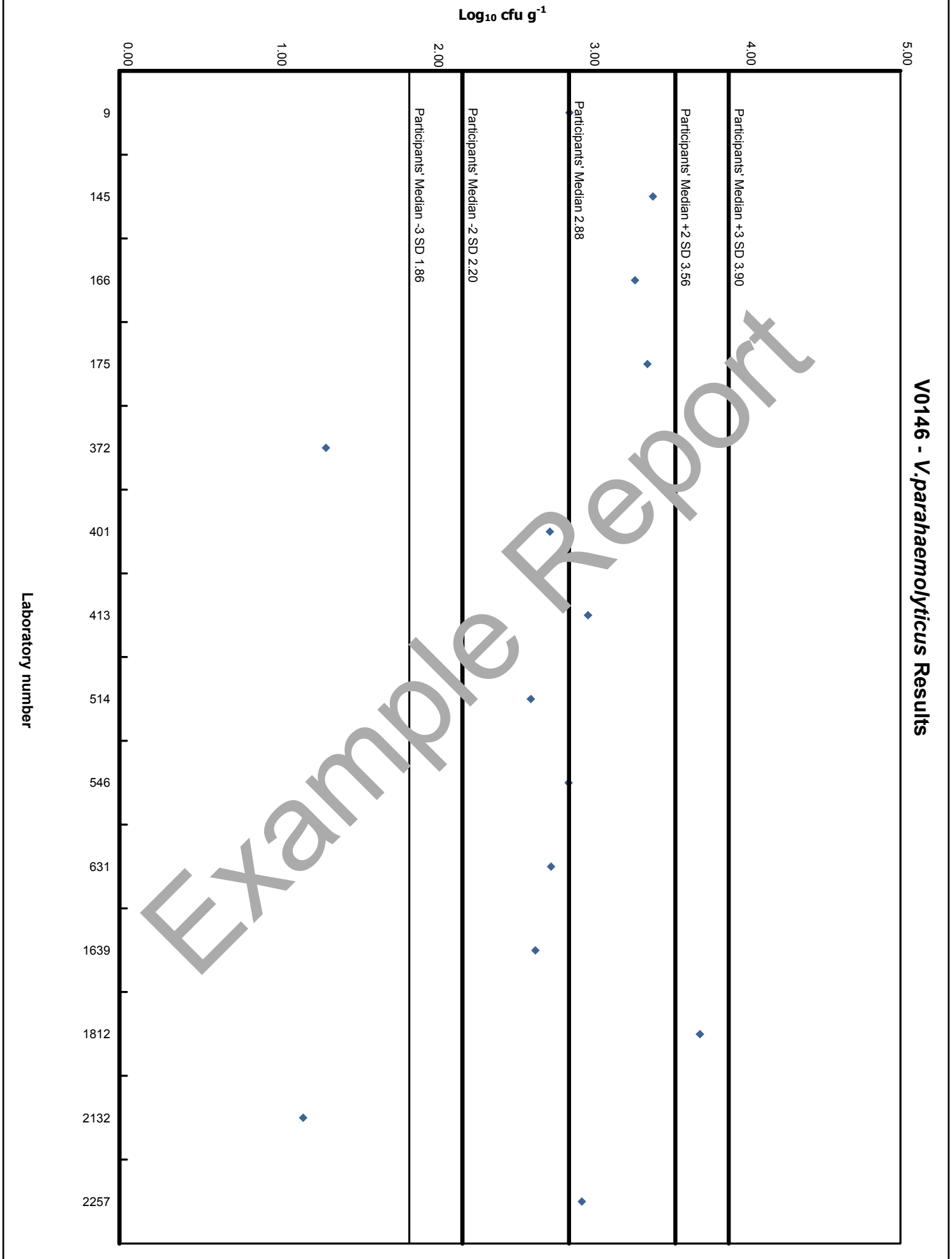
Expected Results:

Examination	Expected Result	Your Result	PHE Comment
V.cholerae	Not detected		
V.parahaemolyticus	Detected		
V.vulnificus	Detected		

Total participants reporting for pathogenic vibrios	[illegible]
Participants who examined for *V.cholerae*	[illegible]
Participants reporting correctly *V.cholerae* as absent	28 (97%)
Participants who examined for *V.parahaemolyticus*	34
Participants reporting correctly *V.parahaemolyticus* as present	34 (100%)
Participants who examined for *V.vulnificus*	21
Participants reporting correctly *V.vulnificus* as present	16 (76%)
Total participants enumerating *V.parahaemolyticus*	14
Participants' reporting low censored values	0
Participants' reporting high censored values	0
Assigned value (Participants' median)	$7.5x10^2$ cfu g^{-1} (2.88 log_{10})
No. of outlying counts	3 (2 low / 1 high)
Participants' mean	$5.9x10^2$ cfu g^{-1} (2.77 log_{10})
Standard deviation (*MADe*) of participants' results *	0.34 log_{10} unit per 100g
FEPTU QC median	$2.0x10^3$ cfu g^{-1} (3.3 log_{10})

Total sent sample	38
Non-returns	1
Not examined	3

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



Sample: V0147

Contents

Vibrio cholerae 1.0x10³ (wild strain), *Vibrio alginolyticus* 9.3x10² (wild strain), *Lactococcus lactis* 7.8x10⁴ (wild strain), *Serratia marcescens* 3.8x10³ (NCTC 10211)

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

Expected Results:

Examination	Expected Result	Your Result	PHE Comment
V.cholerae	Detected		
V.parahaemolyticus	Not detected		
V.vulnificus	Not detected		

Total participants reporting for pathogenic vibrios	34
Participants who examined for *V.cholerae*	29
Participants reporting correctly *V.cholerae* as present	27 (93%)
Participants who examined for *V.parahaemolyticus*	34
Participants reporting correctly *V.parahaemolyticus* as absent	32 (94%)
Participants who examined for *V.vulnificus*	21
Participants reporting correctly *V.vulnificus* as absent	21 (100%)

Total sent sample	38
Non-returns	1
Not examined	3

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

Comments

Statistical evaluation
Participants are advised that for a robust statistical evaluation at least 20 reported results are required for a parameter. When statistical calculation is based on 10 – 19 result, they should be interpreted with caution as they may be overly influenced by outlying results. When there are fewer than 10 reported results, the statistics are not considered robust enough. This is the reason why the standard deviation of the enumeration results reported can be wide.

If you do not return a result for a distribution, you will not be able to view all the participants' results data in your individualised report. Therefore, we will post generic reports on the website, which will be available for 12 months after the distribution has closed, so you can access the missing data.

End of report.