



NQAC

Nestlé Quality Assurance Center  
Dublin

# Technical Datasheet

**Analysis Name:** Enumeration of Enterobacteriaceae: Colony-Count Technique

**Method Number:** ISO 21528-2: 2017

**Scope of Application:** Raw materials, line samples, finished products and environmental samples

**Description:** Appropriate dilutions of sample are inoculated on a selective media (VRBG) using the pour plate method. The plates are incubated at 37 °C for 24 hours. Characteristic colonies are counted and reported as presumptive Enterobacteriaceae, unless confirmation is performed.

### Presumptive colony confirmation (by request)

Presumptive colonies are transferred onto a non-selective agar. Colonies are then further sub cultured and confirmed by appropriate biochemical test.

**Sample Weight Required:** 25 g

**Analytical Platform:** Cultural method

**Special Information:** The method is applied to routine products, raw materials or environmental samples. Including high acid samples and spices.

For presumptive EB however, it must be realized that some Gram-negatives, other than *Enterobacteriaceae*, may be included in the counts (e.g. *Aeromonas* spp., or *Acinetobacter* spp.)

Analyte Reported	Alias	Unit of Measure	Limit of Quantification	Reproducibility
EB Presumptive Result		CFU/g CFU/mL	<10 CFU/g <1 CFU/mL	
EB Presumptive Result (Environmental)		CFU/Swab	<10 CFU/swab (q-tip/stick) <100 CFU/swab (sponge)	
EB Final Result		CFU/g CFU/mL	< 10 CFU/g <1 CFU/mL	
EB Final Result (Environmental)		CFU/Swab	<10 CFU/swab (q-tip/stick) <100 CFU/swab (sponge)	