

DAIRY WATERS
(Coliform Group and Escherichia coli)
[E. coli verification required only on source water]
IMS #24
FDA/NCIMS Revision 10/19

[Unless otherwise stated all tolerances are $\pm 5\%$]

1. Laboratory Requirements

- a. Cultural Procedures (CP), items 34 & 35
- b. Sample volume sufficient to assure 100 mL for testing, sufficient air space for mixing, do not accept if completely filled
- c. Transported and maintained at 0.0-4.5°C (temperature control [TC] required)
- d. If samples are not refrigerated, transit not to exceed 6 hours (TC not required)
- e. Transit time does not exceed 30 hours
- f. Samples examined within 30 hours of collection or within 2 hours of receipt (item 1.d)

APPARATUS

2. CP, see items 1 - 33 (as necessary)

3. Sample Containers

- a. Borosilicate glass, plastic bottles or bags
- b. Sterile, containing 0.1 mL of 10% Sodium Thiosulfate
- c. Holds sufficient sample with air space for all necessary bacterial tests
- d. Maintains sample uncontaminated

4. Incubator 35 \pm 0.5°C (Make/Model: _____)

- a. See CP item 15 for incubator requirements

5. Water Bath, 35 \pm 0.5°C (Make/Model: _____)

- a. Circulating and thermostatically controlled
- b. Maintain sufficient water depth

**6. Water Bath, 44.5 \pm 0.2°C (Make/Model: _____)
[Required for EC-MUG]**

- a. Circulating and thermostatically controlled

- b. Maintain sufficient water depth _____
- 7. **Water Bath, 44.5±0.5°C (Make/Model: _____)**
[Only for use with item 31f]
 - a. Circulating and thermostatically controlled _____
 - b. Maintain sufficient water depth _____
- 8. **Fermentation Tubes/Bottles** _____
 - a. Sufficient size to conform with requirements for media, Durham tube and sample _____
 - b. Tubes and bottles used for EC-MUG broth and chromogenic substrate methods do not autofluoresce _____
- 9. **Inoculation Equipment** _____
 - a. Sterilized loops of at least 3 mm diameter, 22-24 gauge nichrome, chromel or platinum-iridium wire _____
 - b. Disposable dry heat-sterilized hardwood applicator sticks, 0.2 to 0.3 cm in diameter and a minimum of 2.5 cm longer than the fermentation tubes _____
 - c. Inoculating needle _____
 - d. Sterile disposable plastic loops _____
 - e. Commercial pre-sterilized cotton swabs on wooden sticks, 0.2 to 0.3 cm in diameter and a minimum of 2.5 cm longer than the fermentation tubes _____
- 10. **Long Wavelength UV Light (365 – 366 nm) and PPE** _____
 - a. 6 watts _____
 - b. Keep clean _____
 - c. UV protective glasses _____
- 11. **Vacuum Source with Trap** _____
- 12. **Membrane Filter (MF) Funnel; Brand: _____** _____
 - a. Free from defects that may interfere with function _____
 - b. Sterilizable _____
 - c. Marked at 100 mL, or pre-marked checked and adjusted, using a 100 mL Class A graduated cylinder _____

13. Membrane Cellulose Filters, 47 mm, 0.45 µM (±0.02 µM), Sterilized

Brand: _____ Lot #: _____

14. Absorbent Pads, Sterilized, Brand: _____

15. Forceps

a. Round tipped, with smooth surface

16. Culture (Petri) Dishes (for MF), Brand: _____ Size: _____

a. Sterile with plastic, tight fitting covers

17. Microscope and Lamp, Brand: _____ Model: _____

a. Binocular, wide field, 10x oculars

b. Fluorescent light, adjacent, above, perpendicular to filter plane

c. Other optical device giving equivalent results

CULTURE MEDIA

18. Storage of Media

a. CP item 28-30 for media and storage requirements

b. MF media

1. Store in dark at 0.0-4.5°C

2. Broth medium used within 96 hours. Date Prep.: _____

3. Plates kept no more than 1 week in a sealed container at 0.0-4.5°C.
Date Prep.: _____

19. Media Quality Control

a. See CP item 28 for media composition

b. Suitability test conducted on each new lot of commercially prepared and/or each new batch of laboratory prepared media by spiking with known coliform or *E. coli*, as applicable; records maintained

**TESTS FOR PRESENCE OF MEMBERS OF THE COLIFORM GROUP
AND *E. coli* BY MULTIPLE-TUBE FERMENTATION TECHNIQUE**

20. Presumptive Test

a. Double Strength Lauryl Sulfate Tryptose Broth (DS-LST)

1. Before inoculating arrange tubes in order and label, or otherwise identify
2. Shake samples vigorously 25 times in a 1 ft movement in 7 sec before removing test portion
3. Remove test portions (100 mL total) within 3 min
4. Inoculate ten (10) fermentation tubes containing 10 mL DS-LST or five (5) tubes containing 20 mL DS-LST or one bottle containing 100 mL DS-LST with equal volume of sample
5. Incubate tubes at $35 \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 24 ± 2 hours
6. Examine tubes for gas – any gas is considered Presumptive Positive and must be transferred to BGLB (all tests) and EC-MUG broth (if performing *E. coli* testing)
7. Return negative tubes (no gas) to incubator and incubate an additional 24 hr (total of 48 ± 3 hours)
8. Re-examine tubes for gas production after 48 ± 3 hours
9. Record presence or absence of gas at each examination
10. Any gas produced by 24 or 48 hours is considered positive for the Presumptive Test
11. No gas after 48 hours is Not Found (NF) for the test
- a. Tubes showing no gas, but showing evidence of growth (turbid) can be promptly submitted to the Confirmation Test (item 21). Do not report until after completion of confirmation
12. Do not report gas production after 51 hours of incubation
13. Promptly submit all presumptive positive tubes showing gas production at 24 or 48 hours to the Confirmation Test

21. Total Coliform Confirmation Test

a. Brilliant Green Lactose Bile Broth (BGLB)

1. Gently shake presumptive positive tube (item 20.a.13)
2. Transfer (item 9) portion of positive broth to BGLB broth

3. Incubate tubes at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 24 ± 2 hours _____
4. Examine tubes for gas – any gas is considered positive _____
5. Return negative tubes (no gas) to incubator and incubate an additional 24 hours (total of 48 ± 3 hours) _____
6. Re-examine tubes for gas production after 48 hours _____
7. Record presence or absence of gas at each examination _____
8. Any gas produced by 24 or 48 hours is considered positive for Total Coliform _____
9. No gas after 48 hours is Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
10. Do not report gas production after 51 hours of incubation _____

22. *E. coli* Verification Test _____

a. EC-MUG Broth _____

1. Gently shake presumptive positive tube(s) (item 20.a.13) _____
2. Transfer (item 9) portion of positive broth to EC-MUG broth _____
 - a. If using the same apparatus to transfer to both BGLB and EC-MUG, transfer to EC-MUG first then to BGLB _____
3. Incubate tubes at $44.5\pm0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 24 ± 2 hours (item 6 only) _____
4. Place tubes in water bath within 30 min of inoculation _____
5. Examine tubes exhibiting growth for fluorescence using Long-wavelength UV light (item 10) _____
6. Record presence or absence of fluorescence _____
7. Bright blue fluorescence after incubation is considered positive for *E. coli* _____
8. No fluorescence after incubation is Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

23. Recording and Reporting _____

- a. If one or more DS-LST tubes are turbid with no gas production and confirmation in BGLB yields no gas production, invalidate the sample and request a re-sample from the same point source for heterotrophic plate count. [If history has shown a sample source to repeatedly yield growth/turbidity in LST that does not confirm, the lab may test for Heterotrophic Plate Count at the same time as testing the same sample by the Multiple Tube Fermentation technique as a usual practice.] _____

- b. Record results of fermentation tubes that confirm positive in BGLB as MPN Total Coliform/100 mL ($\geq 1.1/100$ mL if 10 tubes of 10 mL or 5 tubes of 20 mL are used) or ≥ 1 Total Coliform/100 mL if 100 mL presence/absence test used _____
- c. Record results of fermentation tubes that confirm positive in EC-MUG as MPN *E. coli*/100 mL ($\geq 1.1/100$ mL if 10 tubes of 10 mL or 5 tubes of 20 mL are used) or ≥ 1 *E. coli*/100 mL if 100 mL presence/absence test used _____
- d. Interpretation: for multiple tubes, Not Found (NF) is $< 1.1/100$ mL and Positive is $\geq 1.1/100$ mL; for presence/absence, NF is $< 1/100$ mL and Positive is $\geq 1/100$ mL _____

TESTS FOR PRESENCE OF MEMBERS OF THE COLIFORM GROUP BY MEMBRANE FILTRATION TECHNIQUE

24. Filtration _____

- a. Place (with alcohol flamed forceps, item 15) sterile membrane filter (item 13) on porous plate, secure funnel _____
- b. Pour 100 mL test sample into funnel (item 12) and apply vacuum _____
- c. After test volume has been filtered, rinse funnel by filtering 3 volumes of 20-30 mL of sterile buffered water _____
- d. Turn off vacuum and remove filter with sterile (alcohol flamed) forceps _____
- e. M-Endo Broth _____
 - 1. Sterile pad (item 14) placed in culture dish _____
 - 2. Saturate pad with 2.0 mL of M-Endo Broth, CP item 28.u _____
 - 3. Allow to stand a few minutes before pouring off excess _____
 - 4. Prepared filter rolled (grid side up) onto pad slowly to avoid trapping air bubbles, do not drag across side of plate _____
- f. M-Endo Agar _____
 - 1. Use culture dish previously prepared (CP item 28.t) _____
 - 2. Prepared filter placed on agar with rolling motion to avoid trapping air bubbles _____

25. Incubation _____

- a. In saturated humidity, with dish inverted _____
- b. At $35 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ for 23 ± 1 hour _____

26. Counting

- a. Count all sheen colonies as typical coliforms and dark suspect colonies as atypical coliforms, keep separate counts of each morphological type until confirmed
- b. Confirm 10% up to a maximum of 10 isolated colonies, with representative proportions of each colony type

27. Total Coliform Confirmation Test

- a. Make serial transfers of colonies to individual LST and then to BGLB tubes using the same transfer apparatus (item 9)
- b. Incubate tubes at $35 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 ± 2 hours
- c. Examine tubes for gas
 - 1. LST tubes with gas must be transferred to fresh BGLB tubes if the original BGLB tubes show no gas
- d. Return negative tubes (no gas) to incubator and incubate an additional 24 hours (total of 48 ± 3 hours)
- e. Re-examine tubes for gas production after 48 hours
- f. Record presence or absence of gas at each examination
- g. Any gas produced in BGLB tubes by 24 or 48 hours is considered positive for the Confirmation Test
- h. No gas after 48 hours is Not Found (NF) for the Test
- i. Do not report gas production after 51 hours of incubation

28. *E. coli* Verification Test

- a. EC-MUG Broth
 - 1. Transfer (item 9) portion of each target colony to EC-MUG broth
 - a. If using the same apparatus to transfer to LST, BGLB and EC-MUG, transfer to LST first, then EC-MUG, then to BGLB
 - 2. Incubate tubes at $44.5 \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 ± 2 hours (item 6 only)
 - a. Place tube in water bath within 30 min of inoculation
 - 3. Examine tubes exhibiting growth for fluorescence using Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10)
 - 4. Record presence or absence of fluorescence

5. Bright blue fluorescence after incubation is considered positive for *E. coli* _____

6. No fluorescence after incubation is Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

29. Reporting _____

a. Report confirmed colony count/100 mL _____

b. Invalidate all samples with confluent growth or TNTC, and request a re-sample from the same point source for heterotrophic plate count _____

c. Interpretation: Not Found (NF) is < 1/100 mL and Positive is ≥ 1/100 mL _____

HETEROTROPHIC BACTERIA STANDARD PLATE COUNT METHOD

30. Heterotrophic Plate Count Method _____

a. Plate samples as in SPC, items 2 - 10, 13 and 14. a and b _____

b. Incubate at 35±0.5°C for 48±3 hours _____

c. Count as in SPC items 15 and 16 _____

d. Report counts as in SPC item 19.a _____

e. Record as "Heterotrophic Plate Count/mL at 35°C" _____

f. Interpretation: Not Found (NF) if < 500 CFU/mL and Positive if ≥ 500 CFU/mL _____

CHROMOGENIC SUBSTRATE (MMO-MUG) PRESENCE – ABSENCE TEST FOR DAIRY WATERS (SOURCE WATER SUPPLIES ONLY)

31. Materials _____

a. Sterile non-fluorescent borosilicate glass or clear plastic bottles to contain 100 mL sample with sufficient air space for mixing _____

b. Color comparator (required for Colilert® and Colilert®-18) _____

c. Commercially prepared substrate used _____

1. Colilert® (CP item 28.v) _____

2. Colilert®-18 (CP item 28.w) (see 32.d) _____

3. Colisure® (CP item 28.x) _____

4. Modified Colitag™ (CP item 28.z) _____

d. Suitability test conducted on each lot of substrate received, by spiking with known coliform; maintain records _____

- e. Water Bath, circulating, maintains $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ or; maintain records during periods of use (required for Colilert-18, optional for Modified Colitag; see item 32.d or e) _____
- f. Water Bath, circulating, maintains $44.5\pm0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ (item 6 or 7); maintain records during periods of use (optional for Colilert-18 and Modified Colitag; see item 32.d or e) _____

32. Procedure

- a. Aseptically add pre-weighed substrate to 100 mL of the water sample _____
- b. Optionally, add 100 mL of sample to the substrate in a sterile container provided by the manufacturer _____
- c. Aseptically cap and mix thoroughly by shaking 25 times to dissolve reagent (does not completely dissolve) _____
- d. For Colilert-18 thermally equilibrate test solution for 20 min in a $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath or alternatively 7-10 min (not to exceed 10 min) in a $44.5\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath (item 6 or 7), and then continue incubation in water bath or dry incubator ($35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) for a total of 18 hours (minimum), not to exceed 22 hours. _____
- e. For Modified Colitag that could be read prior to 24 hours, thermally equilibrate test solution for 20 min in a $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath or alternatively 7-10 min (not to exceed 10 min) in a $44.5\pm0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath (item 6 or 7), and then continue incubation in a water bath or dry incubator ($35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) for a minimum of 18 to a maximum of 48 hours. _____
- f. For Colilert and Colisure, incubate at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in water bath or dry incubator for a minimum of 24 hours, not to exceed 28 hours for Colilert, 48 hours for Colisure _____
- g. For Modified Colitag not pre-warmed (item 32.e), incubate at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in water bath or dry incubator for a minimum of 24 to a maximum of 48 hours _____
- h. Examine containers for the production of color change _____
- i. Examine containers that exhibit color change for fluorescence _____

33. Interpretation and Reporting

- a. Colilert and Colilert-18 _____
 - 1. If no yellow color is observed _____
 - a. Record test result as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
 - b. Report as Total Coliform Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $< 1/100 \text{ mL}$ _____

2. If yellow color present: _____
- a. Gently invert container several times until color is uniformly dispersed through the sample _____
 - b. Compare yellow color to color comparator dispersed into the **SAME** type of sample container _____
 - c. If color is equal to or greater than that of the color comparator, record test result as Positive (POS) for Total Coliform _____
 - d. Report as total coliform Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
 - e. If yellow color is obvious but less than the comparator, record test result as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform; report as for no yellow color above (33.a.1.b) _____
3. Place yellow containers under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10) _____
- a. If the container fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____
 - b. Report as *E. coli* Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
 - c. If container does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____
 - d. Report as *E. coli* Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $<1/100$ mL _____
- b. Colisure _____
1. If no red or magenta color is observed _____
- a. Record test result as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
 - b. Report as Total Coliform Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $< 1/100$ mL _____
2. If red or magenta color present _____
- a. Gently invert container several times until color is uniformly dispersed through the sample _____
 - b. If red or magenta color is present, record test result as Positive for Total Coliform _____
 - c. Report as Total Coliform Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
3. Place red or magenta containers under Long-Wavelength UV light _____
- a. If the container fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____

- b. Report as *E. coli* Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
- c. If container does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli*. Report as $< 1/100$ mL for *E. coli* _____
- d. Report as *E. coli* Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $< 1/100$ mL _____
- c. Modified Colitag _____
 - 1. If no yellow color is observed _____
 - a. Record test result as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
 - b. Report as Total Coliform Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $< 1/100$ mL _____
 - 2. If yellow color present _____
 - a. Gently invert container several times until color is uniformly dispersed through the sample _____
 - b. Optionally, compare yellow color to one or more of the following controls that have been dispersed into the **SAME** type of sample container: _____
 - 1. Color comparator _____
 - 2. Positive and negative control strain _____
 - 3. Blank _____
 - c. If yellow color is present, record test result as Positive for Total Coliform _____
 - d. Report as Total Coliform Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
 - 3. Place yellow containers under Long-Wavelength UV light (Item 10) _____
 - a. If the sample fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____
 - b. Report as *E. coli* Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL _____
 - c. If container does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli*. _____
 - d. Report as *E. coli* Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: $< 1/100$ mL _____

**CHROMOGENIC SUBSTRATE (MMO-MUG) MULTIPLE TUBE PROCEDURE
FOR THE PRESENCE OF TOTAL COLIFORM (SOURCE WATER SUPPLIES ONLY)**

34. Materials

- a. Sterile non-fluorescent borosilicate glass or clear plastic tubes 10 mL or 20 mL capacity
- b. Color comparator: See item 31.b (comparator solution must be in container of same size and type (34.a.)
- c. Water Bath: See item 31.e

35. Procedure

- a. Before transferring sample portions arrange tubes in order and identify
- b. Shake sample vigorously 25 times in 7 sec with a 1 ft movement prior to adjusting to test volume
- c. Aseptically add pre-weighed substrate to 100 mL sample
- d. Optionally, add 100 mL of sample to container with substrate provided by manufacturer
- e. Aseptically cap and mix thoroughly by shaking 25 times to dissolve reagent (does not completely dissolve)
- f. Remove test portions (100 mL total) within 3 min
- g. Transfer 20 mL of sample/reagent mixture to five (5) tubes, or 10 mL to ten (10) tubes
- h. Optionally, transfer 100 mL of mixed (see item 35.b) sample to 10 tubes containing pre-dispensed substrate provided by manufacturer
- i. For Colilert-18, thermally equilibrate test solution for 20 min in a $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath and then continue incubation in water bath or dry incubator for a total of 18 hours (minimum), not to exceed 22 hours
- j. For Modified Colitag that could be read prior to 24 hours, thermally equilibrate test solution for 20 min in a $35.0\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ circulating water bath, and then continue incubation in a waterbath or dry incubator ($35.0\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) for a minimum of 18 to a maximum of 48 hours.
- k. For Colilert and Colisure, incubate at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in water bath or dry incubator for a minimum of 24 hours, not to exceed 28 hours for Colilert, 48 hours for Colisure
- l. For Modified Colitag not pre-warmed, incubate at $35.0\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in water bath or dry incubator for a minimum of 24 to a maximum of 48 hours

m. Examine tubes for the development of color change _____

n. Examine tubes that exhibit color change for fluorescence _____

36. Interpretation _____

a. Colilert and Colilert-18 _____

1. Mix tubes to uniformly distribute yellow color _____

2. Compare tubes to color comparator tube (**SAME** size and type) _____

3. Record test result of tubes without color or obvious yellow color but less than comparator as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____

4. Record test result of tubes with yellow color equal to or greater than color comparator tube as Positive (POS) for Total Coliform _____

5. Place yellow tubes under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10) _____

a. If the tube fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____

b. If tube does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

b. Colisure _____

1. Mix tubes to uniformly distribute red or magenta color _____

2. Record test result of tubes without red or magenta color as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____

3. Record test result of tubes with red or magenta color as Positive (POS) for Total Coliform _____

4. Place red or magenta tubes under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10) _____

a. If the tube fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____

b. If tube does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

c. Modified Colitag _____

1. Mix tubes to uniformly distribute yellow color _____

2. Optionally, compare yellow color to one or more of the following controls that have been dispersed into the **SAME** type of tube: _____
 - a. Color comparator _____
 - b. Positive and negative control strain _____
 - c. Blank _____
2. Record test result of tubes without color as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
3. Record test result of tubes with yellow color as Positive (POS) for Total Coliform _____
4. Place yellow tubes under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10) _____
 - a. If the tube fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____
 - b. If tube does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

37. Reporting

- a. If all tubes exhibit no color change (36.a.3, 36.b.2, or 36.c.2), report as Not Found (NF): < 1.1/100 mL for Total Coliform and *E. coli* _____
- b. If one or more tubes exhibit color change (36.a.4, 36.b.3, or 36.c.3), report as Positive (POS): ≥ 1.1/100 mL for Total Coliform _____
- c. If one or more tubes exhibit fluorescence, report as Positive (POS): ≥ 1.1/100 mL for *E. coli* _____

CHROMOGENIC SUBSTRATE (MMO-MUG) QUANTI-TRAY PROCEDURE FOR THE PRESENCE OF TOTAL COLIFORM (SOURCE WATER SUPPLIES ONLY)

38. Materials

- a. Quanti-Tray or Quanti-Tray 2000 _____
- b. See item 31.b (comparator solution must be in same type of tray (34.a.) _____
- c. Long Wavelength UV Light (Item 10) _____

39. Procedure

- a. Turn on Quanti-Tray Sealer and allow to pre-heat _____
- b. Before transferring sample portion identify tray _____

- c. Shake sample vigorously 25 times in 7 sec with a 1 ft movement prior to adjusting to test volume _____
- d. Aseptically add pre-weighed substrate to 100 mL sample _____
- e. Aseptically cap and mix thoroughly by shaking 25 times to dissolve reagent (does not completely dissolve) _____
- f. Transfer test portions (100 mL total) into tray within 3 min _____
- g. Place tray in appropriate support and seal tray _____
- h. For Colilert-18, incubate at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in a dry incubator for a total of 18 hours (minimum), not to exceed 22 hours _____
- i. For Colilert, incubate at $35\pm0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in dry incubator for a **minimum** of 24 hours, not to exceed 28 hours _____
- j. Examine wells in tray for the development of color change _____
- k. Examine wells in tray that exhibit color change for fluorescence _____

40. Interpretation _____

- a. Colilert and Colilert-18 _____
 - 1. Mix tray to uniformly distribute yellow color in wells _____
 - 2. Compare wells to color comparator tray (**SAME** size and type) _____
 - 3. Record test result of wells without color or obvious yellow color but less than comparator as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform _____
 - 4. Record test result of wells with yellow color equal to or greater than color comparator tray as Positive (POS) for Total Coliform _____
 - 5. Place Quanti trays with yellow wells under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10) _____
 - a. If any well fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli* _____
 - b. If all wells do not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli* _____

41. Reporting _____

- a. If all wells exhibit no color change, report as Not Found (NF): $< 1.0/100$ mL for Total Coliform _____
- b. If one or more wells exhibit color change, report as Positive (POS): $\geq 1.0/100$ mL for Total Coliform _____

- c. If one or more wells exhibit fluorescence, report as Positive (POS):
≥ 1.0/100 mL for *E. coli*

**CHROMOGENIC SUBSTRATE PRESENCE (XGAL – MUG) PRESENCE – ABSENCE
TEST FOR DAIRY WATERS (SOURCE WATER SUPPLIES ONLY)**

42. Materials

- a. E*Colite substrate, see CP item 28.y
- b. Quality control procedures conducted on each lot of substrate received, as recommended by manufacturer, test by spiking with known coliform, records maintained

43. Procedure

- a. Add water sample to the E*Colite substrate
1. Tear perforated strip
 2. Open bag by pulling the white tabs
 3. Aseptically pour 100 mL of water sample into bag (do not touch inside of bag)
 4. Flatten bag to remove air
 5. Twirl bag 2-3 times around twister wires to form a leak proof seal
 6. Fold twisters around back of bag
 7. Shake bag 25 times in 7 sec to dissolve sodium thiosulfate tablet, if present
 8. Continue rolling to build pressure in water compartment
 9. Maintain pressure on rolled area and push water through first seal into powder section of bag **ONLY**
 10. Shake bag 25 times in 7 sec to completely dissolve powder in water (push mixture against bag sides to pull apart any remaining seal)
- b. Place sealed bag in 35°C water bath for 10 minutes
- c. Transfer to 35±0.5°C incubator for 28 hours
- d. Examine bags for the production of blue or blue/green color or blue color in corners of bag

44. Interpretation and Reporting

- a. If yellow color is observed:
 - 1. Record sample as Not Found (NF) for Total Coliform
 - 2. Report as Total Coliform Not Found (NF) in 100 mL sample: < 1/100 mL
- b. If blue or blue/green (or blue in corners) color observed:
 - 1. The sample is Positive for Total Coliform
 - 2. Report as Total Coliform present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL
- c. Place blue or blue/green containers under Long-Wavelength UV light (item 10)
 - 1. If the container fluoresces, record test result as Positive (POS) for *E. coli*
 - 2. Report as *E. coli* Present in 100 mL sample: $\geq 1/100$ mL
 - 3. If container does not fluoresce, record test result as Not Found (NF) for *E. coli*. Report as < 1/100mL for *E. coli*

MISCELLANEOUS

45. Copy of current in-use edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater in laboratory