



APLAC T097 Proficiency Testing Programme
“Food Microbiology Quantitative Scheme”

Instructions to Participants

INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS

Welcome to participate in Food Microbiology Quantitative Proficiency Testing Program of APLAC and organized by CNAS. The confidentiality is ensured to use the lab code throughout the program. Your lab code is APLAC T097-XXX.

To ensure that results from this program can be analyzed properly, participants are asked to adhere carefully to the following instructions.

1. Samples

Two PT test items have been supplied to each participant. Sample description is as following.

The samples consist of freeze-dried bacteria and cryoprotectants in small glass vials, which are similar in nature to the food routinely tested by participating laboratories.

When receiving the artefacts, please check the packaging and the artefact in the receiving day, and send the “Receipt Form (for Participants)” electronically to your accreditation body, andacas_international@126.com cc to liuhanxia_cn@163.com.

2. Testing Period and Storage Instruction

Testing may commence as soon as samples are received.

Store your samples in the original packaging in room temperature between 15°C and 25°C.

3. Properties for Measurement

The following properties / quantities will be measured and compared in this proficiency testing.

- a) Aerobic plate count
- b) *Staphylococcus aureus*
- c) Sulphite-reducing *Clostridium*

4. Measurement Procedure

The freeze dried sample should be reconstituted in 40 mL of sterile dilution liquid. Be sure to mix the content in the glass vial thoroughly before taking out the analytical

portion. This liquid was treated as the sample for testing, which is equivalent of 40mL test sample.

Participants should treat the proficiency test sample in the same manner as the majority of routine tested samples. You are expected to use the test method of their choice, which should be consistent with your routine procedures.

Please perform two sets of measurements for each artefact and record the test results for these two sets according to “*Results Report Form*”.

5. Documents Submitting

a) The following should be sent to your accreditation body electronically **by February 1st 2015** :

- i. Results Report Form;
- ii. Any supporting documentation to assist in the interpretation of the results.

b) At the same time, please provide the electronic copy of the above to toacas_international@126.com cc to liuhanxia_cn@163.com.

The accreditation body is required to ensure that the above information has been supplied by their laboratories in time, and should provide translation into English where necessary.

6. General Information

Additional information may be obtained from:

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