

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 may be returned by mail or e-mail

Wastewater - Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit

Wastewater Scheme distribution – Instruction Sheet

The distribution consists of **two** freeze dried vials containing mixtures of micro-organisms. The vial contents require reconstitution prior to examination.

Refer also to the Safety Data Sheet: [Freeze dried safety data sheet](#)

Storage:

- Store the samples at **2 - 8°C** on receipt.

Opening Vials:

Remove the plastic tear-off seal by positioning the vial with the arrow on the plastic flip-top pointing away from you, flip the top up then carefully but deliberately pull downwards and to the right (or the left if you are left handed) until the seal separates; then still holding onto the plastic top, gently remove altogether and discard into a sharps container.

Reconstitution:

- Measure 3.5 mL 0.1% peptone saline (maximum recovery diluent (MRD)) into a container (hold at least 10mL of liquid). Allow to reach room temperature.
- Aseptically remove the rubber stopper from the freeze-dried sample vial.
- Transfer approximately 1 mL of the 3.5 mL MRD into the freeze-dried vial and allow to stand for 2 - 5 minutes.
- Transfer the vial contents back to the remaining MRD.
- Rinse the vial a further 3-4 times with the 3.5 mL MRD.
- Mix the 3.5 mL thoroughly e.g. using a vortex.

Enumeration testing

- Transfer 1 mL of the reconstituted vial into 1 L distilled water.

Salmonella testing

- Transfer 1 mL of the reconstituted vial into 1 L distilled water.

SARS-CoV-2 testing

- Transfer 1 mL of the reconstituted vial to 200 mL distilled water.

Processing:

- Undertake the examinations listed on the request/report form between 30 - 45 minutes of reconstitution.
- Examine in accordance with routine procedures.

Return of Results:

- Return your results by submitting them using a link sent to your laboratory.
- The distribution will be closed on the deadline date for return of results.
- Results cannot be accepted after the distribution has closed.