



Compact Dry™ ETC

Ready-to-Use Medium for
Enterococcus spp.



Compact Dry™ offers a simple and safe procedure to detect and quantify microorganisms in foods, beverages, raw materials, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and environmental samples.

Enterococcus spp. are found abundantly in the gastrointestinal tract of humans and animals. Therefore, this can be used as an index of good hygiene and sanitation.

Most *Enterococcus* spp. are considered “low-grade” pathogens, but some are opportunistic and can produce several types of virulence factors with broad resistance against different antibiotics.



About the Test

Incubation time: 22 ± 2 hours

Incubation temperature: 37 ± 1°C

pH Adjustment: The pH of the product or 1:10 dilution of product should be between 6 and 7 for optimal growth of target microorganisms. If the pH is not between 6 and 7, adjust the pH of the product or 1:10 dilution with 1 N or 0.1 N NaOH for acidic products or 1 N or 0.1 N HCl for alkaline products.

Interpretation: *Enterococcus* spp. form blue/blue-green colonies 1–2 mm in diameter.

Storage and shelf life: Room temperature, +1°C to +30°C, 18 months.

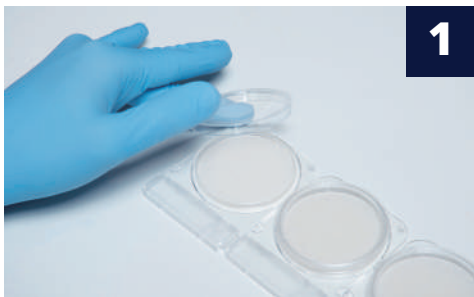
Manufactured by

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General Testing Protocol



Remove the lid.



Dispense 1 ml of sample in the middle of the Compact Dry plate.



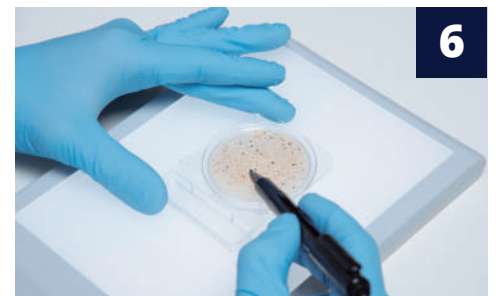
The sample diffuses passively and evenly across the dehydrated media sheet, rehydrating the dry medium into a gel within seconds.



Replace the lid and label the plate.



Turn over the plate (lid down) and incubate for the appropriate time and temperature.



Following incubation, count the number of colored microbial colonies.

Interpretation guide on reverse ➤



Interpretation

- *Enterococcus* spp. form small colonies, with a diameter of 1–2 mm. Color is blue/blue-green due to the presence of enzymatic substrates inside the Compact Dry plate.
- Count range 1–300 cfu/plate.

Enumeration

Enumeration of colonies can be performed from the front or the back of the Compact Dry plate. Read against a white background with an adequate light source. The grid lines on the back of the plate are useful when high plate counts are present. Colony morphology is best observed on the front of the plate. Colonies can be sampled for further identification by removing the lid and selecting an isolated colony. Use an inoculating loop to transfer to an agar plate or a pipette tip to place into a growth medium. Gently remove a colony taking care not to disturb the surrounding growth medium.



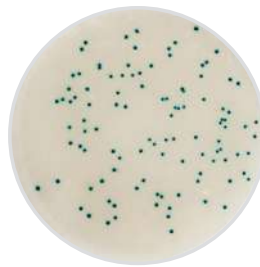
Enterococcus spp.
count = 0

Enterococcus spp. are not present on this plate.



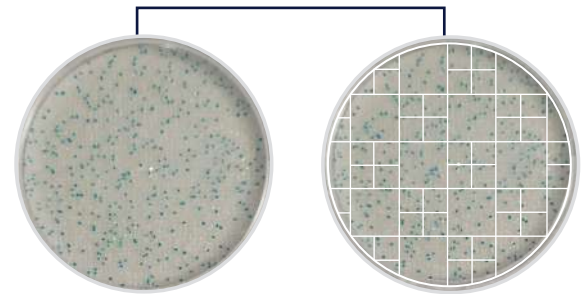
Enterococcus spp.
count = 9

Enterococcus spp. are present as small, well defined colonies with a blue-green color.



Enterococcus spp.
count = 106

The test plate shows growth with green coloration; these colonies are part of the *Enterococcus* genus.



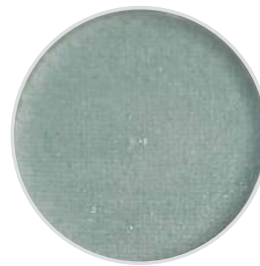
Enterococcus spp. approx count = 380 (TNTC)

This plate is too numerous to count. The total number of colonies are outside of the countable limit of the plate (1–300 cfu/plate). The count can be estimated using etched gridlines on the back of the plate. Use the average colony count in a few of the large squares (1 cm²) and multiply by 20 to obtain the approximate plate count. To obtain an accurate plate count further dilution of the sample is recommended.



Count = TNTC

This plate is too numerous to count. Colorless background growth is present and should not be included in the *Enterococcus* spp. count. To obtain an accurate plate count further dilution of the sample is recommended.



Count = TNTC

This plate is too numerous to count. No colonies are visible and a blue-green color is present over the entire plate. To obtain an accurate plate count further dilution of the sample is recommended.