NQAC
Nestlé Quality Assurance Center
Dublin

Technical Datasheet

Analysis Name: Enumeration of Sulfite-Reducing *Clostridium* spp.

Method Number: ISO-15213-1:2023

Scope of Application: Products intended for human consumption and for the feeding of animals, environmental samples in the area of food production and food handling, and samples from the primary production stage.

Description: A quantitative method for the enumeration of mesophilic Sulfite Reducing *Clostridium* in vegetative and spore forms. To enumerate vegetative cells, samples are plated directly onto a selective medium and incubated under anaerobic conditions at 37°C for 46 – 50 hours. To enumerate spores, samples are heat treated for 10 min at 80°C prior to plating as described for vegetative cells. Typical colonies are counted as sulfite reducing bacteria.

Sample Weight Required: 25 g

Method Reference: ISO-15213-1:2023

Analytical Platform: Cultural Method

Special Information: All typical colonies are subject to a confirmation test. Only confirmed Clostridia count is reported. The growth medium for ISO 15213-1:2023 has been changed to improve the recovery of sulfite-sensitive strains of *Clostridium* spp. In order to ensure accurate and reliable results, any seasonings submitted for testing under ISO 15213-1:2023 or ISO 15213-2:2023 will undergo additional analysis by NQAC Dublin to assess potential interference from the matrix. Only after this analysis will it be determined if the testing can proceed.

Analyte Reported	Alias	Unit of Measure	Limit of Quantification	Reproducibility
Sulfite Reducing Clostridium Vegetative Result		CFU / g CFU / ml CFU / swab	< 10 CFU / g <1 CFU / ml <10 CFU / swab (Q-tip/stick) <100 CFU / swab (sponge)	
Sulfite Reducing Clostridium Spore Result		CFU / g CFU / ml CFU / swab	< 10 CFU / g <1 CFU / ml <10 CFU / swab (Q-tip/stick) <100 CFU / swab (sponge)	