Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results

Receipt and Storage
- On receipt of the test material, record the date and store refrigerated at 2-8°C until ready to test.
- Results should be submitted before the deadline shown on the website: https://portal.lgcstandards.com

Sample Details HY01, HY02, HY03, HY06 & HY07
- The sample consists of a sterile square plastic plate with a lid, a 5ml diluent, and a lyophilised tablet containing the microorganisms in a plastic tube.
- The samples may contain a number of different microorganisms. There is no need to report all parameters; you only need to perform and report results for tests that you would routinely carry out in your laboratory.
- Dilutions may be required.
- Samples HY01 & HY02 only: we request on this occasion that a direct analysis is performed on the prepared inoculum along with the count obtained using swabbing techniques. This will provide valuable information regarding the recovery of microorganisms.

Sample preparation HY01, HY02, HY03, HY06, HY07
- Carefully remove all items from the bag.
- Resuscitate the tablet by adding it to the 5ml diluent and leave for 30-60 minutes.
- Mix the sample thoroughly immediately before the next step.
- Remove the top lid of the square plastic plate and discard. Using a sterile pipette, pipette 200µl onto the surface of the plate.
- Using a sterile spreader, spread the inoculum over the surface of the plate and allow to dry for 15-30mins. HY03, HY06 & HY07 –spread the inoculum over a small area in the centre of the plate only. The sample is now ready for analysis.
- For sample HY01 please also analyse a 200µl aliquot of the inoculum and report results in the ‘direct count’ analyte as cfu/200 µl.
- For sample HY02 please also analyse a 200µl aliquot of the inoculum and report results in the ‘direct testing’ analyte as ‘detected’ or ‘not detected’ in 200µl.

Sample HY01 Swab Analysis
- Prepare your chosen volume of diluent.
- Use a sterile swab to swab the entire surface of the plate as indicated by the photograph.
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- Place the swab in the diluent in order to transfer the microorganisms from the swab.
- Enumerate the diluent for the target organisms using your usual method.
- The surface area of the plate is 100cm².
- For enumeration results, results can be reported either per entire plate surface or per cm², please ensure you select the correct unit when submitting your results in PORTAL.

Sample HY02 swab analysis
- Prepare 10ml of a primary diluent; this should be non-selective such as maximum recovery diluent.
- Swab the entire surface of the plate with the swab and then transfer the swab to the primary diluent.
- Leave the inoculated primary diluent at room temperature for between 30 and 60 minutes.
- Transfer 5ml of the primary diluent to the enrichment broth in use for each pathogen under test.
- Test for the target pathogens using your usual method.

Samples 3, 6 & 7 – Contact plate method
- Apply your contact plate in the approximate centre of the plate surface according to your routine laboratory practice, ensuring that the entire contact plate comes into contact with the surface.
- Apply contact plate to the centre of the plate once only.
- Incubate the contact plate and enumerate the number of colonies.
- Report results per contact plate or per cm².

Sample 5 – ATP
- Prepare two 10ml aliquots of sterile water in appropriate containers.
- Add the lyophilised tablet labelled ‘Sample A’ to one of the containers, and ‘Sample B’ to the other.
- Leave both samples at room temperature for 30-60 minutes.
- Immediately before testing invert the sample 5 times.
- Test both samples using your routine method for ATP.
- Using the drop down list in PORTAL select the sample with the highest level of ATP.
- When entering your results please also enter the type of equipment used in the comments section.

Recording Results
- All results should be submitted using PORTAL.
- Please go to https://portal.lgcstandards.com
- Login using your Lab ID, username and password.
- A PORTAL user guide can be downloaded from the help section.

If you need any help at all please do not hesitate to contact our support team using the details below or your local LGC representative.
Tel: +44(0)161 762 2500
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Email: ptsupport@lgcgroup.com

Precautions

- Test materials contain viable micro-organisms and are supplied on the understanding that the purchaser has suitably competent and qualified personnel to handle them safely. Test materials must only be opened in a laboratory by qualified personnel.
- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for information on the safe handling and disposal of the test materials.