

Australian Standard[®]

AS 5013.14.3—2012

Food microbiology

Method 14.3: Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs—Horizontal method for the enumeration of microorganisms—Colony count at 30°C by the surface plating technique

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee FT-035, Food Microbiology, to supersede AS 1766.1.4—1991, *Food microbiology, Method 1.4: General procedures and techniques—Colony count—Surface spread method*.

This Standard is based on but not equivalent to ISO/DIS 4833-2; *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs—Horizontal method for the enumeration of microorganisms—Part 2: Colony count at 30°C by the surface plating technique*.

The objectives of this revision are—

- (a) to transfer the procedure to the AS 5013 series;
- (b) to base the method on the principles given in ISO/DIS 4833-2; and
- (c) to include a method for the surface colony count using a spiral plater.

The laboratory should have a clearly defined quality control system to ensure the apparatus, culture media, reagents and techniques are suitable for the test. The use of positive controls is part of this system.

The term ‘normative’ has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard.

METHOD

1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies a horizontal method for enumeration of microorganisms growing on the surface of a solid medium after aerobic incubation at 30°C.

The method is applicable to—

- (a) products intended for human consumption or for animal feeding stuffs; and
- (b) environmental samples in the area of food production and food handling.