

# Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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## Food microbiology

### Method 14.2: General procedures and techniques—Colony count—Membrane filtration method

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#### PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee FT-024, Food Products and Subcommittee FT-024-01, Food Microbiology (Constituted), to supersede AS 1766.1.5—1991, *Food microbiology*, Method 1.5: *General procedures and techniques—Colony count—Membrane filtration method*.

The objective of this revision is to update the references and to transfer the procedure to AS 5013 series. It also incorporates minor technical variations on the apparatus used in the test technique.

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#### METHOD

##### 1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out a method for estimating the number of colony-forming units (CFUs) in suitable liquids using a membrane filtration technique.

The method is applicable only to liquids that can be efficiently filtered without causing a build-up on the filter.

NOTE: The membrane filtration method is most suitable when the microorganisms are in low concentration, e.g. in rinse waters collected from cleaned and sanitized pipelines or tanks. The method is suitable for microbiological assessment of water supplies to processing plants.

##### 2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

5013 Food microbiology

5013.14 Method 14: Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs—General rules for microbiological examinations