Australian Standard®

Food microbiology

Method 2.1: Examination for specific organisms—Standard plate count

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Food Microbiology to supersede the following Standards:

AS	
1142	Methods for the microbiological examination of eggs and egg products
1142.2.2— 1975	Preparation and methods of examination — Standard plate count
1766	Methods for the microbiological examination of food
1766.2.1.1 — 1976	Examination for specific organisms — Standard plate count

This Standard is technically identical with the superseded Standards listed above.

METHOD

1 SCOPE This Standard sets out a method for determining the standard plate count (SPC) in a sample of food.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS		
1766	Food microbiology	
1766.1.2	Method 1.2:	General procedures and techniques — Preparation of dilutions
1766.1.3	Method 1.3:	General procedures and techniques — Colony count — Pour plate method
1766.3.1	Method 3.1:	Examination of specific products — Meat and meat products other than poultry
1766.3.2	Method 3.2:	Examination of specific products — Poultry
1766.3.3	Method 3.3:	Examination of specific products — Dehydrated foods
1766.3.4	Method 3.4:	Examination of specific products — Frozen foods
1766.3.5	Method 3.5:	Examination of specific products — Molluscs, crustaceans and fish, and products thereof
1766.3.6	Method 3.6:	Examination of specific products — Margarine
1766.3.7	Method 3.7:	Examination of specific products — Heat-processed foods in hermetically-sealed containers
1766.3.8	Method 3.8	Examination of specific products — Eggs and egg products
1766.5	Method 5:	Preparation of media, diluents and reagents

3 DILUENT AND CULTURE MEDIUM (see AS 1766.5)

3.1 Diluent—peptone solution, 0.1 percent.

3.2 Medium—plate count agar.

4 PROCEDURE The procedure shall be as follows:

(a) Prepare the sample of food product for testing in accordance with the instructions given for that product in the appropriate Standard (see Clause 2).