

## DIPSLIDES

### BactD011

The R2A medium was developed to assess the bacteria count plate counts of treated potable waters and the detection of oligotrophic heterotrophs. R2A is a low nutrient agar which in conjunction with a longer incubation period has been shown to give significantly higher colony counts. For ease of enumeration 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium chloride (TTC) has been added which dyes colonies red. R2A agar is recommended in standard methods for the examination of water and waste water for four plates, spread plate and membrane filter methods for heterotrophic counts.

#### SAMPLING: Fluids

**Do not touch the agar!**

The sample should be taken by immersing both sides of the paddle into the fluid to be tested, it having first been removed from the sterile container. Excess sample should be gently shaken from the paddle before it is replaced in the container.

#### INCUBATION

Incubate at 35°C for 24-48 hours, when full enumeration should be completed.

#### DISPOSAL

Used slides should be incinerated, autoclaved or soaked in disinfectant for a minimum of 24 hours before disposal

#### STORAGE

Store in a cool dry place at an optimum of 8-15°C. Use before the expiry date on the box. Rapid fluctuations in temperature can lead to condensation forming in the bottom of the tube and potential dehydration of the agar. This does not affect dipslide performance, provided the agar still fills the tray.

#### INTERPRETATION

| Agar side 1 |             |                        | Agar side 2 |                    |                        |
|-------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Agar colour | Detection   | Growth characteristics | Agar colour | Detection          | Growth characteristics |
| Straw       | Total Count | Red/Variied colonies   | Purple      | Enterobacteriaceae | Purple-pink colonies   |

**Fluids are calibrated in „Colony forming units“ (cfu) per millilitre.**  
**Surface results are calibrated in „Colony forming units“ (cfu) per square centimetre.**

For quantitative analysis compare the incubated slide to the charts provided, reading the result from the closest matching picture. It is good practice to compare all growth against a negative control (unused slide) to demonstrate high levels of infection that can appear subtle due to an even „lawn-like“ appearance across the whole silde surface.

#### Please note:

The results outlined in this table are according to ATCC control strains and act as a guide only.

There can be variations in growth characteristics among many different organisms.

For presumptive analysis only, confirmation of target organisms via laboratory methods is advised.

Fluids  
CFU/ml

