QWAS

Quality in Water Analysis Scheme

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Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results

Receipt and Storage

- On receipt of the test material, record the date and store at 2-8ºC until ready to test.
- The test material should be analysed in accordance with the deadlines shown on the website: https://www.lgcpt.com/portal

Sample Details WT412 - 425

- Test materials when reconstituted, represent a 'real' water or effluent sludge sample, which may or may not contain the target organism(s) at a range of inoculum levels. Background flora may also be present.

Resuscitation

- Dilute the sample according to the instructions below for each particular test material:

Test Materials WT412, 413, 421, 424, & 425

1. Prepare 1L sterile deionised water to use as a diluent.
2. Aseptically remove cap and rubber stopper from the vial and reconstitute the freeze-dried test material by adding 10ml of the diluent prepared in step 1.
3. Replace the stopper and shake to dissolve.
4. Add this concentrate to the remaining diluent.
5. Repeat this procedure two or three times to ensure all the freeze-dried test material is recovered from the vial.
6. Invert sample 5 times.
7. Leave to stand for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.

Test Material WT414

1. Prepare 100ml sterile deionised water to use as a diluent.
2. Aseptically remove cap and rubber stopper from the vial and reconstitute the freeze-dried test material by adding 10ml of the diluent prepared in step 1.
3. Replace the stopper and shake to dissolve.
4. Add this concentrate to the remaining 90ml of diluent.
5. Repeat this procedure two or three times to ensure all the freeze-dried test material is recovered from the vial.
6. Invert sample 5 times.
7. Leave to stand for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.

Test Material WT416

1. Two identical 10g samples are provided, one for the detection of *Salmonella* species and one for the enumeration of *Escherichia coli*.
2. Prepare two sets of 90ml sterile deionised water to use as diluents.
3. Reconstitute each test material with the diluents prepared in step 2 and mix thoroughly.
4. Leave to stand for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.
5. The reconstituted test material should be treated as the 'neat' sludge sample.

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Test Materials WT417, 418, 419, 420, 423

1. Prepare batches of 1L sterile deionised water to use as a diluent (depending upon the number of tests you wish to perform).
2. Aseptically remove cap and rubber stopper from the vial and reconstitute the freeze-dried test material by adding 10ml of sterile deionised water to the test material.
3. Replace the stopper and shake gently to dissolve.
4. Invert sample 5 times.
5. Transfer 1ml aliquots to each 1L volume of sterile deionised water as required.
6. Leave to stand for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.

Test Material WT422

1. Prepare batches of 1L sterile 3% saline to use as a diluent (depending upon the number of analysts or tests you wish to perform).
2. Aseptically remove cap and rubber stopper from the vial and reconstitute the freeze-dried test material by adding 10ml of sterile 3% saline to the test material.
3. Replace the stopper and shake gently to dissolve.
4. Invert sample 5 times.
5. Transfer 1ml aliquots of this concentrate to 1L volumes of sterile 3% saline.
6. Leave to stand for a minimum of 60 minutes but no longer than 90 minutes.

Testing

- Immediately before testing, mix the sample by inverting 5 times and then test for the target organism(s) using your routine laboratory method.
- Occasionally test materials contain high numbers of the target organisms. It may be necessary to perform dilutions or filter lesser quantities in order to enumerate the organisms in the test materials.
- Please refer to the scheme description for information on test volumes and/or units.

Sample Details WT426

- The test material contains a pure culture of a micro-organism.
- The sample is supplied as a freeze-dried test material contained within a glass vial.

Test Material WT426.

1. Resuscitate the sample by adding 9ml of your chosen diluent.
2. Mix the test material thoroughly under aseptic conditions.
3. Leave the test material to resuscitate at room temperature for a minimum of 60 minutes, but no longer than 90 minutes.
4. Immediately before testing, mix the resuscitated sample thoroughly.
5. Streak onto non-selective media and incubate at mesophilic temperature.
6. Using your microbiological knowledge and following standard microbiology tests determine the identification of the organism contained in the test material.

Test material WT427 is a paper exercise, with instructions included in the test information.

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Recording Results

- All results should be submitted using PORTAL
- Please go to https://www.lgcpt.com/portal
- 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
Email: support@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.