

Title	Perform viable microbiological counting methods		
Level	5	Credits	3

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: take samples for microbiological count; and perform viable microbiological counts.
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Classification	Science > Microbiology
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 All work must be carried out in accordance with the quality management system, documented protocol system or Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) acceptable in a commercial or research laboratory.
- 2 Health and Safety practices must conform to Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243 – *Safety in Laboratories* Parts 1, 2, 3, 7 and 10 available at <http://www.standards.co.nz>.
- 3 Legislation applicable to this unit standard includes:
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.
- 4 Glossary
Laboratory procedures refer to documented systems or processes of operation which may be found in a SOP manual, quality management system, or in protocol system documentation. These procedures are external and/or internal laboratory requirements governing laboratory work.
- 5 Recommended for entry: Unit 8040, *Perform aseptic laboratory techniques*; and Unit 26117, *Work safely in a science laboratory*.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Take samples for microbiological count.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Samples are taken and documented in accordance with laboratory procedures.
Range evidence of two samples is required.

Outcome 2

Perform viable microbiological counts.

Performance criteria

2.1 Counting methods are selected and applied to samples in accordance with laboratory procedures.

Range pour plate, spread plate, filtration, most probable number.

2.2 Viable counts are calculated and documented in accordance with laboratory procedures.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	22 December 1996	31 December 2014
Revision	2	19 February 1998	31 December 2014
Review	3	23 November 1999	31 December 2014
Review	4	21 May 2010	31 December 2025
Rollover	5	27 January 2015	31 December 2025
Review	6	27 September 2018	31 December 2025
Review	7	30 November 2023	31 December 2025

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0113
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.