

We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a happy, successful
New Year.



Christmas Time

Christmas time is here

Sleigh bells ringing in the air

A child's favorite time of year

White snow falling to the ground

Carolers singing with great sound

Seeing lights flashing to and fro

Santa going Ho Ho Ho

A child's favorite time of year.

By Michael

New products

RIDA®COUNT – A new testcard for fast and safe hygiene monitoring



R-Biopharm has recently introduced a new and innovative product called RIDA®COUNT, designed to meet the growing demands of routine microbiological laboratories. RIDA®COUNT testcards are coated with ready to use microbiological media, which is covered by a patented fiber coating. This unique design means that RIDA®COUNT has many different applications including its use as a direct contact slide or wipe test in addition to being well suited for analysing surface purity.

The following RIDA®COUNT products are available:

RIDA®COUNT Total (AOAC-RI, licence no. 011001) for the detection of total aerobic bacteria count can be evaluated after 24 - 48 h incubation at 35 °C. A counting grid on the protective film simplifies counting.

RIDA®COUNT Coliform detects a broad spectrum of coliform bacteria. In contrast to the conventional definition for classifying coliform bacteria (lactose fermentation and gas formation), RIDA®COUNT Coliform detects β -galactosidase activity using X-gal technology. This also facilitates the reliable detection of important bacteria such as *Serratia*, *Yersinia* etc., which cannot be identified with conventional methods. RIDA®COUNT Coliform can be reliably evaluated after just 24 h.

RIDA®COUNT Yeast & Mold has been developed to detect yeast and moulds. The test can be evaluated after just 2 days following incubation at 25 °C.

The genus-specific detection of *Salmonella spp.* can be performed using **RIDA®COUNT Salmonella** following the prescribed enrichment. *Salmonella spp.* forms black colonies on RIDA®COUNT, which can be readily distinguished from *Citrobacter* and/or *Proteus* through their colour and morphology.

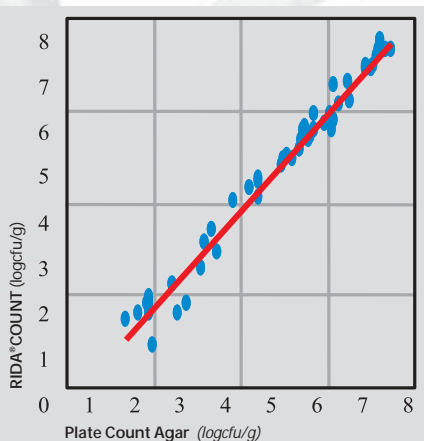
RIDA®COUNT Staph. aureus is suitable for the species-specific detection of *Staphylococcus aureus*, both in foodstuffs as well as in environmental samples.

RIDA®COUNT Total has been successfully tested in an independent comparative study carried out by AOAC-RI (Association of Analytical Communities Research Institute) (licence no. 011001). The comparison method was the „plate count agar method for the determination of the total aerobic bacteria“ as officially approved by the AOAC. The results beside show excellent correlation of results for the various samples tested compared with the plate count agar method.

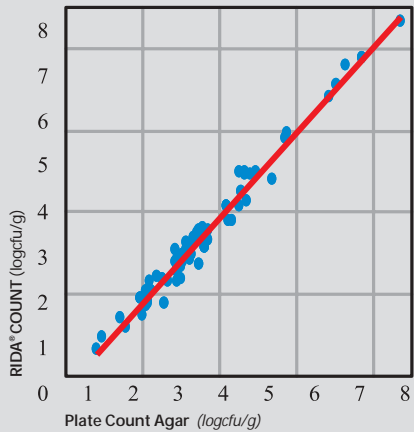
RIDA®COUNT is suitable for both food testing as well as for testing surfaces as

part of a hygiene monitoring practice. The nature of the RIDA®COUNT structure means that the sample is immediately absorbed and there are no unnecessary waiting times. A long shelf life (RIDA®COUNT Coliform, 36 months) and small packaging units make it possible for small companies to use RIDA®COUNT cost-effectively.

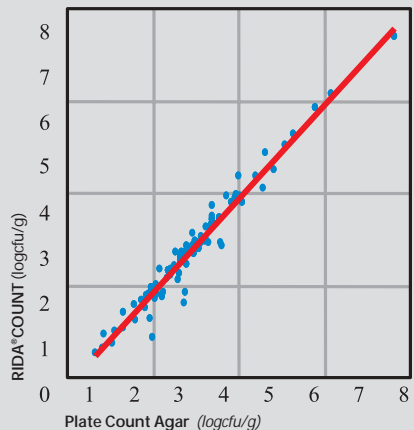
If you are interested in our new RIDA®COUNT testcards, please contact your local distributor for more information.



Comparison of RIDA®COUNT Total with Plate Count Agar (official AOAC method) Meat



Comparison of RIDA®COUNT Total with Plate Count Agar (official AOAC method) Seafood



Comparison of RIDA®COUNT Total with Plate Count Agar (official AOAC method) Daily Dishes

RIDA®QUICK DON

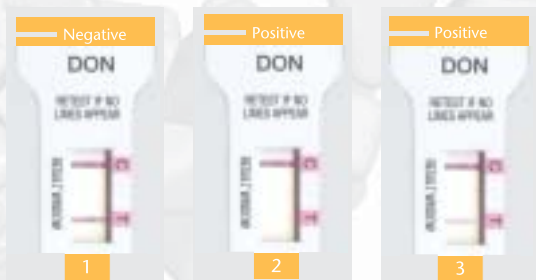
R-Biopharm have launched a unique, lateral flow device for the rapid detection of DON in cereals (wheat). The test principle is based on an antigen-antibody reaction.

The kit contains 25 individually wrapped dip-sticks and is performed after a quick and simple sample clean-up procedure (grind and extract with the extraction buffer included in the test). After a 5-minute incubation period, the result is visually determined against a comparator

card. The detection limit of the test is approximately 1 ppm DON in wheat samples.

The test is valid if the control line in the control field (C) is clearly visible (see comparator card: photos 1 - 3)

The cereal sample is negative, i.e. contains less than 1 ppm DON, if the **control line (C) and the test line (T) are both clearly visible** (comparator card: photo 1)



The cereal sample is positive, i.e. contains more than 1 ppm DON, if the **control line (C) is present and the test line (T) is absent or hardly visible** (comparator card: photos 2 + 3)

RIDASCREEN® Ochraplate

This new test format, a combination of immunoaffinity columns and ELISA (48-well microtiter plate), offers the customer the possibility of analysing ochratoxin A in highly pigmented and complex samples, such as cereals, coffee (green coffee, roast and instant coffee) and dried fruits. Samples are cleaned up using immunoaffinity columns (Ochraprep),

which are included with the test. Quantitative evaluation with the competitive ELISA follows sample clean up and the ochratoxin A concentrations of the samples can directly be read from the calibration curve.

The range of the standards is between 2.5 and 40 µg/kg (ppb) and the test has a detection limit of 2,5 µg/kg (ppb).

Mycotoxin reference material

New mycotoxin reference material is available from R-Biopharm Rhône Ltd. Each of the samples are naturally contaminated with a known mycotoxin concentration and are currently available for aflatoxin (total), DON, zearalenone and fumonisin.

Each packet contains 50 g of sample material, which has been thoroughly homogenised and tested ten times by

HPLC or GCMS. The materials are subjected to strict quality control procedures and each sample is supplied with a certificate of analysis.

The reference materials are particularly suited for method validation, training of new staff or as control material for the test methods.

Fumonisin B₁- and B₂ standards

In addition to providing standard solutions for aflatoxin, ochratoxin A and zearalenone, R-Biopharm Rhône Ltd. also offers a new fumonisin B₁ and B₂ standard solution. The fumonisin standard solution (20,000 ng/ml)

is comprised of 13.333 ng/ml fumonisin B₁ and 6667 ng/ml fumonisin B₂ in 6 ml vials. This standard solution can be used for fumonisin analysis with HPLC, sample spiking and also to check laboratory methods.

If you are interested in our new products, don't hesitate to ask your local distributor for more information.

About our products

RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AOZ) and (AMoz)

As announced in RIDA News II/03, we have extended our product range with the introduction of the RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AOZ) test (art. no. R3701). Since our last edition we have also introduced a new RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AMoz) test (art. no. R3711).

Both tests are competitive enzyme immunoassays used for quantitative determination of AOZ and AMoz in diverse foodstuffs. Sample clean up procedures for liver, fish and whole eggs have recently validated for both tests and the resulting methods are included in new pack inserts (03-10-16). It is now possible to use the same sample clean-up procedure for analysis of AOZ and AMoz in the above matrices and also for shrimps and meat (chicken, pork, beef). Milk samples, however, can still only be analyzed with the RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AOZ) test.

The detection limits for the AOZ test are approx. 200 ppt for shrimps and liver, and

approx. 100 ppt for meat, fish, whole egg and milk samples.

The detection limit for the AMoz test is approx. 200 ppt for all the samples mentioned.

Recovery rates for both tests are between 70 - 100 % depending on the sample.

Cross reactions of the antibody used in the RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AOZ) test with the other metabolites (AMoz, AHD and SEM) are < 0.01 %.

The RIDASCREEN® Nitrofuran (AMoz) antibody reacts with the other metabolites (AOZ, AHD and SEM) < 0.05 %. Both tests are therefore very specific in their detection of AOZ (art. no. R3701) or AMoz (art. no. R3711)

For further information, please contact your local distributor.

Nitrofuran (AOZ) and (AMoz) in honey samples

We are now able to offer you an additional sample preparation for honey samples. Please ask your local distributor for this supplement.

The next R-Biopharm^{news} will be published during the I. quarter 2004

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