

# FDA FACT SHEET

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## EQUIVALENT TESTING METHODOLOGIES FOR AGRICULTURAL WATER

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FDA has determined that the following methods are “scientifically valid” and “at least equivalent to the method of analysis in § 112.151(a) in accuracy, precision, and sensitivity”<sup>1</sup>:

1. [Method 1103.1](#) - *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) in Water by Membrane Filtration Using membrane-Thermotolerant *Escherichia coli* Agar (mTEC) (March 2010). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. EPA-821-R-10-002.
2. [Method 1604](#) – Total Coliforms and *Escherichia coli* in Water by Membrane Filtration Using a Simultaneous Detection Technique (MI Medium) (September 2002). U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. EPA-821-R-02-024.
3. 9213 D – Natural Bathing Beaches (2007). *In*: Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 22nd Edition (Rice E.W., et al., Ed.), 9-46 – 9-48. Washington, DC: American Public Health Association. (2012).
4. 9222 B – Standard Total Coliform Membrane Filter Procedure (1997), followed by 9222 G – MF Partition Procedures (1997) using NA-MUG media. *In*: Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 21st Edition (Eaton A.D., et al., Ed.), 9-60 – 9-65, and 9-70 – 9-71, respectively. Washington, DC: American Public Health Association. (2005).

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<sup>1</sup> 21 CFR § 112.151(b)(1).

5. D 5392-93 – Standard Test Method for Isolation and Enumeration of *Escherichia coli* in Water by the Two-Step Membrane Filter Procedure. *In*: Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Volume 11.02. ASTM International. (1996, 1999, 2000).
6. [Hach Method 10029 for Coliforms – Total and \*E. coli\*](#), using m-ColiBlue24<sup>®</sup> Broth PourRite Ampules.
7. [IDEXX Colilert<sup>®</sup> Test Kit](#), but only if using IDEXX Quanti-Tray/2000 for quantification.
8. [IDEXX Colilert-18<sup>®</sup> Test Kit](#), but only if using IDEXX Quanti-Tray/2000 for quantification.

**For more information:**

- [FSMA Final Rule on Produce Safety](#)

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The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, and products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.