

Microbac Laboratories Save Preparation Time and Provide Faster Results with 3M™ Petrifilm™ Environmental Listeria Plates

A Customer Testimonial

Microbac Laboratories

Microbac Laboratories offers commercial testing services for many industries, including food and environmental testing. Although headquartered in Pennsylvania, they have multiple locations and are known for the quality of their service nationwide.

Background

When Microbac Laboratories, Inc. needed a faster method for environmental *Listeria* testing, they chose 3M Petrifilm Environmental Listeria (EL) Plates. “One of our long-standing clients needed *Listeria* testing results more quickly than the conventional USDA method that takes approximately four days,” explained Mindy Suter, Microbiologist. “Their business is very important to us so we looked for an alternate method of testing.”

“We had already been using 3M Petrifilm Plates. We like them and know they save time because we don’t need to make media,” she continued. “3M was the first place we went looking for a faster *Listeria* testing system and we selected 3M Petrifilm Environmental Listeria Plates.”

Critical Time Savings

3M Petrifilm EL Plates produce results 29 hours after sample collection. “The 3M system saves critical time because it provides results the next day,” said Suter. “Using 3M Petrifilm EL Plates also saves time because they eliminate the need to make media.”

Quantitative Results

3M Petrifilm EL Plates detect the most prevalent environmental *Listeria* species, including *Listeria monocytogenes*. Rather than producing qualitative (positive/negative) results, 3M Petrifilm Environmental *Listeria* Plates give quantitative results. This provides testing laboratories and their clients better information to use in the detection, management, and prevention of *Listeria*.

Safer to Use

In addition, unlike traditional methods for *Listeria* testing, 3M Petrifilm Environmental Listeria Plates do not require enrichment or culture transfers, so the risk of cross-contamination within a laboratory is reduced.

“Our client is sending us approximately 60 samples per month for testing so the total time savings is significant,” said Suter. “They are satisfied with the rapid results that 3M Petrifilm EL Plates produce and so are we.”

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