



## Instructions for Catalog # 081 WasteWatR™ Enterococci

Revision 090119

### Description:

- This standard consists of two glass vials each containing one gelatin tablet and a desiccant pouch (Samples A and B). The bacteria are contained in the gelatin tablets. Two sterile, 100 mL hydrating fluids are also provided. Sample A contains a certified number for both Colony Forming Units (CFU) and Most Probable Number (MPN) index and Sample B contains no microorganisms.
- This standard is not preserved.
- The glass vials containing the bacteria should be stored at  $4\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- The hydrating fluid can be stored at room temperature.
- This product is intended to be used as a quality control check of the entire analytical process for the analytes/matrix included in the standard.
- ERA suggests that when subsampling this product prior to analysis you use a minimum sample size of at least 50 mL. Using a smaller sample size may invalidate the assigned value and/or uncertainty shown on the certificate of analysis.
- The certified values apply to the diluted sample after following the stated dilution instructions.

### Helpful Hints:

- The bacteria are in a lyophilized form in the gelatin tablets and each sample must be hydrated per the following instructions prior to analysis.
- ERA recommends that the quality control guidelines in *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*, Section 9020B be followed to determine media acceptability prior to analysis.
- This standard contains viable microorganisms and should be analyzed **immediately** after being hydrated.
- When choosing sample sizes for analysis, note that the manufacturing range for this product is 20 to 1000 CFU/100 mL (MPN index/100 mL). Given this range, select sample portions that will most likely yield a membrane filter in the ideal counting range. We recommend that the sum volume of the portions selected is equal to the total sample volume provided.
- If performing Multiple-Tube Fermentation run a series of tubes that would yield a result consistent with the manufacturing range of 20 to 1000 MPN index/100 mL.
- The sample resulting after completion of step 6 in the instructions below represent the sample for analysis. Performing additional processing steps normally associated with routine sample collection, such as adding dechlorinating agents ( $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ ) or chelating agents (EDTA) is not appropriate. Inference of routine sampling holding times is also not appropriate.

### Instructions:

1. Remove the vials from refrigeration and allow to warm to room temperature.
2. Carefully open the hydrating fluid that has been stored at room temperature.
3. One at a time, open the bacteria sample vials and aseptically transfer the gelatin tablets into the hydrating fluid.
4. Properly dispose of the empty glass vials and desiccant pouches.
5. Reseal the bottles that now contain the bacteria samples.
6. With the bottle tightly closed, shake the sample for a few seconds. Observe the sample to confirm that the gelatin tablet has dissolved. If the tablet has not completely dissolved, shake for a few more seconds.
7. Analyze the inoculated samples using your normal procedures.

### Safety:

- ERA products may be hazardous and are intended for use by professional laboratory personnel trained in the competent handling of such materials. Responsibility for the safe use of these products rests entirely with the buyer and/or user. Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all ERA products are available through our website [www.eraqc.com](http://www.eraqc.com)
- **ERA microbiology standards contain live microorganisms** and should be used only by individuals with bacteriological training.
- Properly disinfect any spills and sterilize used containers by autoclaving before disposal.