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Wet heat treatment of Cronobacter sakazakii and detection of viable cells using RT-PCR and Propidium monoazide for distinction between dead and viable cells

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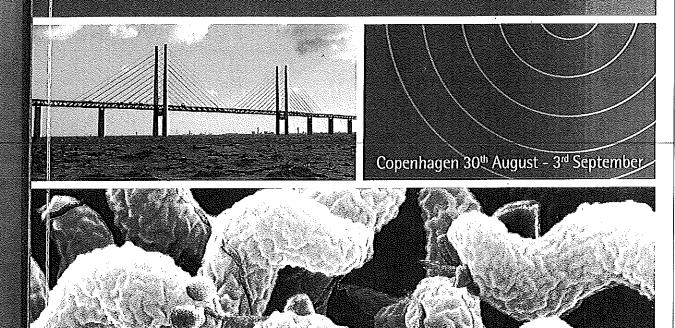
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		DED 4.00	Sutherland JP	PEA2.18	Thorsen Line	PEA1.70
.D2.15	Sondergaard T	PEB1.30	Sutherland Jr	PEB2.39	Thorsen Line	PEB1.32
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.C1.65	Spaziani M	PEB2.17	Suzzi G			PEC1.103
A1.59	Speybroeck N	PEC1.30	Svendsen C	PED2.50	Timan ADJ	PEB1.06
A2.41	Stabler R	PEB2.32	Svensson B	PEB2.06	Timke M	PEA2.29
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B1.31	🚶 Stals A	PEC2.48	Szlavik, Julie	PSD2.03	Todorov SD	PED2.48
A2.03	Stamatiou A	PĘC1.72	Söderholm Henna	PEB2.60	Todorov Svetoslav	PEA2.23
B2.23	Stampelou	PEC2.55	Söderholm, H	PSB2.01		PEA1.56
A1.47	Stastkova Zora	PEC1.10	Sørensen G	PEC2.01	Tofalo Rosanna	PEC1.78
D2.24	Staufenbiel Anja	PEA2.06	Sørensen Kl	PEA1.40	∓	PED2.49
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B2.30	Stefanelli E	PEB2.37	Sørensen S	PEB1.21	Tomic N	PEB2.37
B2.47	Stephan R	PED1.15	Sørensen SJ	PEE2.14	Tononi P	PEB1.27
B2.50	Stephan, R	PSB1.02,	Sørensen, SJ	PSE1.03	Torabi P	PEA1.29
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C1.63	Stevens G	PEE2.02	Taivosalo A	PEA1.15	Torrieri E	
	Stevens, M	PSE1.01,	Tajbakhsh M	PEB1.27	Toyofuku Hajime	PEC2.18
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	Steyii Cato	PED2.03	Talon R	PEB2.03	Traversa A /	PEA2.42
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	Stonsaovapak S	PED2.11	Tanfani F	PEB2.17	Trivedi Krina	PEB1.05
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)2.55 \2.44	Storm C	PED1.23	Tanner R	PEB1.03	Tromp, S-0	PSC2.02
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Copenhagen 30th August - 3th September

Wet heat treatment of *Cronobacter sakazakii* and detection of viable cells using RT-PCR and Propidium *monoazide* for distinction between dead and viable cells

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The food borne pathogen Cronobacter sakazakii, previous known as Enterobacter sakazakii, is associated with powdered infant formulas (PIF). Because C. sokozokii is related to outbreaks of meningitis, septicaemia and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates it is of great interest to obtain a better understanding of the heat treatment which is needed to inactivate C. sakazakii. We propose a new way of evaluating heat treatment by use of Propidium Monoazide RT-PCR. Propidium Monoazide (PMA) enters the nucleus of bacterial cells with damaged membranes (non-viable). Upon light exposure PMA is converted into a highly unstable nitrine intermediate with a high affinity for DNA. The nitrine intermediate is quickly covalently bound to the DNA present. After light exposure DNA is extracted from viable and non-viable cells using commercially available DNA extraction kits. PMA bound DNA will thus be extracted together with the non-PMA bound DNA, DNA, which is bound to PMA, is no longer capable of interacting in PCR reactions and it is therefore possible to use quantitative RT-PCR to determine the number of viable cells. In the present study a primer set specific C. sakazakii was used in the RT-PCR. The PMA RT-PCR method was used to determine D-values and a z-value for C. sakozakii cells after heat treatment. For verification purposes CFU data was used. Thermal inactivation of C. sakozokii DSM 4485^T was conducted in triplicates, D-values and a z-value was obtained. Heat treatment was carried out in Erlenmeyer flasks containing BHI-broth preheated to either 52 °C, 54 °C 58 °C and at 60 °C. The corresponding D-values were found to be 46.5 min, 10.56 min, 3 min and 1.6 min as obtained from CFU determinations. For the PMA RT-PCR determination of viable cells 1 mL of heat treated C. sakozakii cells was centrifuged (14.000g) for 5 min at 5 °C and the supernatant was discarded. The pellet was suspended in 0.55 mM PMA for 10 min in the dark at 5 °C, with 5 sec vortexing every 2 min. The sample was hereafter exposed to light (650W) for 3 min at a distance to the light source of approximately 20 cm. The RT-PCR data obtained were used to evaluate the validity of the results obtained by CFU determinations. This is the first time PMA RT-PCR is used distinction of dead and viable cells of C. sakazakii.

PED2.51

L. monocytogenes is gradually inactivated in three processed cheese analogs stored under proper refrigeration but grows under severe temperature abuse.

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(1) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki / School of Veterinary Medicine, Greece

The behaviour of Listeria monocytogenes was studied in three processed cheese analogs (PCAs) that were inoculated to contain less than 100, ca. 5×10^3 and ca. 5×10^5 CFU of a cocktail of three *L monocytogenes* strains per g. The inoculated products were aseptically packaged under vacuum to mimic their respective market package conditions and stored at 4, 12 and 22°C. Based on their physicochemical characteristics (a, and pH) and their shelf life neither of the PCAs can be automatically classified as products unable to support the growth of L. monocytogenes according to the definition given in Annex I of the Commission Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 and its amendment by Commission Regulation (EC) 1441/2007. The temperature range at which these products are normally transported and stored in the market is 4-8°C. The purpose of the current work was to establish whether these products can be classified as RTE foods unable to support the growth of L monocytogenes at 4°C and to determine whether the pathogen has the ability to proliferate in the products under conditions of temperature abuse (12 and 22°C). For each of the 27 different experimental conditions (product, inoculum level and storage temperature) the fate of the pathogen was monitored in duplicate for a period up to 12 months according to the ISO 11290-1 and -2 protocols, resulting in a total of 54 growth/survival curves. The behaviour of the pathogen in the PCAs was product- and storage temperature-depended. Hence, whereas none of the three products supported growth of L. monocytogenes at 4°C, one product supported growth at 12°C and all products supported L monocytogenes growth at 22°C. In the 4°C trials as well as in the 12° C-trials of two out of the three PCAs, the L monocytogenes populations declined continuously, but slowly over time. As a result, in the high and medium inoculum trials, viable L monocytogenes could be detected even after 12 months of storage. The results showed that the products tested do not support the growth of L monocytogenes under proper refrigeration (4°C). However, every effort should be exercised to prevent post-pasteurization product contamination and product temperature abuse, because a hypothetical contamination with L monocytogenes can persist in the products for a considerable time under refrigeration or can lead to pathogen outgrowth under conditions of severe temperature abuse.

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