

Laboratory Reports

Introduction

The report issued is a document that provides you with the results of the analyses you have requested to be performed on the sample(s) submitted for investigation.

Report Types

We have two main report styles. One report type is specifically for Legionella and/or Plate Count analyses on samples from water cooled air-conditioning systems, potable water, warm water systems and recreational or decorative fountains. This report style is in a table format. The second report style is for all other analyses and is in a standard row format.

Information on a Report

We are required under the terms of NATA accreditation to provide you with specific information in addition to the results of the analyses performed. Both our report formats provide the following information.

- A unique report number
- The date the report was issued
- If it is an amended report, a reference to the initial report which is to be replaced
- The date and time that the sample was received and processed
- The page number and number of pages in the report
- The sample temperature on receipt. This can be the actual temperature if applicable or the condition such as chilled, ambient or frozen
- The method used for each analysis performed. We do not provide a code or a reference number as many other laboratories. We are proud of our methods and clearly specify them on all reports.

We also provide information on our reports that is not required under the terms of NATA accreditation but are provided as an additional service to our customers.

- Sample category – where a sample can be classified as a specific sample type
- Based on the sample category, interpretive reporting stating if the particular result is a pass or fail. This relies on either a reference to a known standard or guideline such as the Australian Standard for Legionella AS3666, The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines or the FSANZ Food Standards Code, or guidelines for ready to eat foods. Please note that we can use your own internal guidelines as a basis for interpretive reporting. This will appear on reports as shown by the following example:

✓ Plate Count	4,500	CFU/gram	(AL: <10,000)
X <i>Escherichia coli</i>	39	MPN/gram	(AL: <3)
✓ <i>Bacillus cereus</i>	<100	CFU/gram	(AL: <100)
X <i>Salmonella</i>	Detected	in 25 grams	(AL: ND)

[✓ = Within Acceptable Limit X = Exceeds Acceptable Limit AL = Acceptable Limit ND = Not Detected]

- The measurement of uncertainty can be reported for all numeric results, please see the Biotech Laboratories' information brochure on measurement of uncertainty for further details.

All reports can be issued by mail and/or email and results are posted daily to our secure website 'Online Results Database'. Online results enable you to see each result for a sample as soon as it is available. Preliminary reports can also be made available by email.