CERTIFICATION

AOAC Research Institute
Performance Tested Methods℠

Certificate No.

021401

The AOAC Research Institute hereby certifies the method known as:

Easy Plate™ CC

manufactured by

Kikkoman Biochemifa Company
2-1-1, Nishi-shinbashi
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0003 Japan

This method has been evaluated and certified according to the policies and procedures of the AOAC *Performance Tested Methods*℠ Program. This certificate indicates an AOAC Research Institute Certification Mark License Agreement has been executed which authorizes the manufacturer to display the AOAC Research Institute *Performance Tested Methods*℠ certification mark on the above-mentioned method for the period below. Renewal may be granted by the Expiration Date under the rules stated in the licensing agreement.

Bradley A. Stawick, AOAC Research Institute Senior Director

Issue Date	January 21, 2026
Expiration Date	December 31, 2026

METHOD NAME	CATALOG NUMBER	ORIGINAL CERTIFICATION DATE
Easy Plate™ CC Formerly known as Medi-Ca CC	61974	February 03, 2014

PRINCIPLE OF THE METHOD

Easy Plate CC is a ready-made dry medium for coliform count made up of four components: a waterproof sheet, a dry medium containing a gelling agent and the chromogenic enzyme substrate, 5-Bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl β-D galactopyranoside (X-gal), a hydrophobic resin ring surrounding the medium, and a transparent cover over the medium. Sample suspension is dispensed on the center of the medium while the cover is lifted. After that, the cover is dropped gently to spread the suspension on the medium evenly. The suspension rapidly soaks into the medium, which turns into a gel in 3 minutes. The incubation of the sheet at 35 ± 1°C for 24 ± 1 h develops blue colonies because of the enzymatic reaction involving the substrate: the β-galactosidase produced by bacteria catalyzes the hydrolysis of the X-gal to yield an insoluble blue product.

CERTIFIED CLAIM STATEMENT: The Easy Plate CC method is certified for the enumeration of coliform within the scope of Tables 1 and 2 and with the modifications indicated in Table 3.

Table 1. Method Performance Claims

Matrix	Test Portion	Diluent[a]	Diluent Volume	Plate Incubation		Reference Method[b]	Claim[c]
				Temperature	Time		
Raw ground chicken	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Raw ground pork	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Raw tuna fillet	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Raw lamb	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Raw salmon fillet	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Raw shrimp	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Fresh peeled banana	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Fresh cut pineapple	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq
Fresh cut apples	50 g	BPD	450 mL	35 ± 1°C	24 ± 1 h	BAM Ch. 4	Eq

[a] BPD = Butterfield's Phosphate-Buffered Diluent

[b] BAM = Bacteriological Analytical Manual

[c] Eq = Equivalence of candidate and reference methods demonstrated by the ≥90% confidence interval on difference of means contained entirely within -0.5 to 0.5 $\log_{10}$ using SLV study design from OMA Appendix J (2012) for at least 2 of the 3 levels, including the low level, tested for that matrix. If either the medium or high level does not meet the equivalence criterion, it must have an observed DOM within -0.5 to 0.5 $\log_{10}$.

[d] NSDD = No statistical difference detected using SLV study design from OMA Appendix J (2012). The SLV qualitative method comparison study design from OMA Appendix J (2012) is not intended to demonstrate statistical equivalence in unpaired studies. Expert opinion is that the method is appropriate for its intended use.

Table 2. Method Selectivity

Inclusivity Strains		Exclusivity Strains	
No. Tested	No. Positive	No. Tested	No. Positive
59	58[a]	42[b]	1[c]

[a] *Escherichia blattae* was not detected

[b] Comprising 21 Gram negative species and 21 Gram positive species

[c] *Serratia marcescens* was detected

Table 3. Method History

No.	Date	Summary	Supporting Data
1	February 2014	Original Certification	Certification Report
2	February 2020	Level 2 Modification: Manufacturing location change from Tokyo, Japan, to Kanagawa, Japan	Modification 1 Report
3	June 2021	Level 1 Modification: Rebranded kit to reflect method developer change from Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd. to Kikkoman Biochemifa Company and method name change from Medi·Ca SA to Easy Plate SA	NA[a]
4	March 2022	Level 2 Modification: Manufacturing location change	Modification 2 Report
5	March 2024	Level 2 Modification: Change to the outer pouch material	Modification 3 Report

[a] Not applicable