

# **CERTIFICATION**

# **AOAC®** Performance Tested<sup>SM</sup>

Certificate No.

121401

The AOAC Research Institute hereby certifies that the performance of the test kit known as:

Veriflow® O157:H7

manufactured by

Invisible Sentinel, Inc. 3711 Market Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19104 USA

This method has been evaluated in the AOAC® *Performance Tested Methods*<sup>SM</sup> Program, and found to perform as stated by the manufacturer contingent to the comments contained in the manuscript. This certificate means that an AOAC® Certification Mark License Agreement has been executed which authorizes the manufacturer to display the AOAC *Performance Tested* SM certification mark along with the statement - "THIS METHOD'S PERFORMANCE WAS REVIEWED BY AOAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND WAS FOUND TO PERFORM TO THE MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS" - on the above mentioned method for a period of one calendar year from the date of this certificate (January 27, 2017 – December 31, 2017). Renewal may be granted at the end of one year under the rules stated in the licensing agreement.

Deborah McKenzie

January 27, 2017

Date

Deborah McKenzie, Senior Director Signature for AOAC Research Institute **METHOD AUTHORS** 

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MODIFICATION JANUARY 2016: Ken Huang and Adam C. Joelsson MODIFICATION JANUARY 2017: Ashley Brown, Ken Huang, and

Adam C. Joelsson

Veriflow® O157:H7

KIT NAME(S)

SUBMITTING COMPANY Invisible Sentinel, Inc. 3711 Market Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19104 USA

CATALOG NUMBERS

IS1006

INDEPENDENT LABORATORY

Q Laboratories, Inc. 1400 Harrison Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45214

USA

**AOAC EXPERTS AND PEER REVIEWERS** 

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<sup>4</sup> Modifications: January 2016, January 2017

#### APPLICABILITY OF METHOD

Target organism - Escherichia coli O157:H7

Matrices – 2% fat milk, 20% fat raw ground beef, raw spinach Modification January 2016: whey protein powder (25 g) Modification January 2017: 20% raw ground beef (375 g)

Performance claims - The Veriflow 0157:H7 system allows for the rapid presumptive detection of *E. coli* 0157:H7 strains in 18 hours after initiation of sample enrichment with equivalent performance as compared to the traditional reference methods.

#### REFERENCE METHODS

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (2012) *Microbiology Laboratory Guidebook*, Chapter 5.08 "Detection, Isolation and Identification of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 from Meat Products and Carcass and Environmental Sponges". (3)

U.S. Food and Drug Administration *Bacterial Analytical Manual* Chapter 4a (2014) "Diarrheagenic *Escherichia coli*" (4)

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (2012) Microbiology Laboratory Guidebook, Chapter 5.08 "Detection, Isolation and Identification of Escherichia coli O157:H7 from Meat Products and Carcass and Environmental Sponges". (10)

# ORIGINAL CERTIFICATION DATE

December 16, 2014

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL RECORD Renewed through December 2017

#### METHOD MODIFICATION RECORD

- 1. January 2016
- 2. January 2017

kenewed through December 201

# SUMMARY OF MODIFICATION

- Matrix extension to add whey protein powder.
- 2. Matrix extension to add 20% raw ground beef 375 g.

Under this AOAC® Performance Tested  $^{\rm SM}$  License Number, 121401 this method is distributed by: NONE

Under this AOAC® *Performance Tested<sup>SM</sup>* License Number, 121401 this method is distributed as:
NONE

### PRINCIPLE OF THE METHOD (1)

Veriflow 0157:H7 (Cat No. IS1006) is a molecular based test that detects *E. coli* O157:H7 strains in dairy (2% fat milk), raw meat (20% fat ground beef), and produce (raw spinach) food matrixes. The method combines a single tube multiplex PCR with a rapid, chromatographic vertical flowthrough system that provides specific and highly sensitive detection of target associated molecular signatures coupled with rapid, easy-to-interpret results.

In this study, artificially inoculated food samples including 2% fat milk, 20% fat raw ground beef and raw spinach, were sampled, enriched and subjected to PCR amplification leading to the generation of *E. coli* O157:H7 species-specific analytes. For final analysis, the PCR generated analytes are applied directly to the sample window of a single assay cassette, and the signal is allowed to develop for a total of three minutes, after which the cassette switch is retracted to remove the conjugate pad and reveal the underlying test membrane and results. In the event of a positive sample, the target analytes are captured and immobilized on the nitrocellulose test membrane and bound by a colloidal gold-protein conjugate, which generates a visual signal at the test line. The aggregation of the colloidal gold and analyte complex results in a distinct red line in the area indicated as "T" on the test cassette. A control line will also develop, indicated as "C" on the test cassette, and reacts only with the colloidal gold conjugate providing the user an indication that the test was run properly. The appearance of two distinct red lines is indicative of a positive sample for *E. coli* O157:H7, whereas appearance of just the control line indicates a negative sample.

### **DISCUSSION OF THE VALIDATION STUDY**

The results of this study demonstrated the specificity, accuracy and reliability of the Veriflow 0157:H7 assay as compared to the traditional FDA BAM Chapter 4A and USDA/FSIS MLG chapter 5.08 culture based reference methods for the detection of *E. coli* 0157:H7 in raw meat (20% fat ground beef), dairy (2% fat milk), and produce (raw spinach). POD statistical analysis of all three matrixes tested indicate that there is no significant difference in performance between the methods at specific time points as assayed in this study, and importantly, no false positive or false negative results were observed in the entirety of the study. The successful validation of the assay is further supported by the results of the inclusivity and exclusivity testing, indicating that the Veriflow 0157:H7 assay was able to accurately detect 50 *E. coli* 0157:H7 isolates while correctly excluding all non-specific bacteria tested.

The Veriflow O157:H7 assay provides flexibility and ease of use for the end user by providing accurate results across multiple food matrixes, without complex sample preparation after enrichment. The Veriflow system also offers significant savings in time compared to the reference methods used in this study, by producing accurate presumptive results after an enrichment time of only 18 hours, as compared to the reference methods that require 3–4 days to reach presumptive results. The robustness and lot-to-lot stability data also indicated that the assay is reproducible and rugged and that it can be manufactured uniformly and consistently. Thus the results of this study demonstrated that the easy to follow Veriflow O157:H7 protocol provides for a sensitive, reliable and simple to use rapid detection method for *E. coli* O157:H7.

Table 3: Inclusivity Strain Re	sults (1)								
Organism	Source	Source #	Origin	Result	Organism	Source	Source #	Origin	Result
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU <sup>a</sup>	TW00116	Human	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs <sup>b</sup>	QL2-705	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	TW00975	Human	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC3B	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	TW02302	Hamburger	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC3C	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC4C	Buffalo	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC3D	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	TW05356	Human	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-370	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	TW07587	Human	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC4A	Cow	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-710	Beef Trim	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC4B	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-207	Ground Beef	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC <sup>c</sup>	BAA 460	Human Feces	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	NCTC <sup>d</sup>	13125	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC4D	Cow	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	NCTC	13126	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC4E	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	NCTC	13127	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	35150	Human Feces	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	NCTC	13128	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-202	Ground Beef	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	TW04863	Human	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-203	Ground Beef	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	43888	Human Feces	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	51659	Clinical Isolate	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	43889	Human Feces	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-205	Ground Beef	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	43890	Human Feces	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-206	Ground Beef	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	43894	Human Feces	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	NCTC	12900	Not Available	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	43895	Raw Hamburger	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-214	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	51657	Clinical Isolate	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC3E	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	51658	Clinical Isolate	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-701	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-204	Ground Beef	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-704	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	700531	Clinical Isolate	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	MSU	DEC3A	Human	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	700599	Salami	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-706	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	700728	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-707	Beef Trim	+
Escherichia coli O157:H7	ATCC	700927	Not Available	+	Escherichia coli O157:H7	Q Labs	QL2-708	Beef Trim	+

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Michigan State University Culture Collection, East Lansing, MI.
<sup>b</sup> Q Laboratories, Inc. Culture Collection, Cincinnati, OH.
<sup>c</sup> American Type Culture Collection.
<sup>d</sup> National Collection of Type Cultures, Public Health England, U.K.

# Table 4: Exclusivity Strain Results (1)

Escherichia coil   O.26	Organism	Sour ce	Source #	Origin	Resu It	Organism	Sour ce	Source #	Orig in	Resu It
Escherichia coli 026   MSU   TW012   Human   Escherichia coli 0121   MSU   TW072   Human   Escherichia coli 0145   MSU   TW073   Human   Escherichia coli 0145   MSU   TW075   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW077   Human   Escherichia coli 0145   MSU   TW075   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW077   Human   Escherichia coli 0145   MSU   TW075   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW077   Human   Escherichia coli 0145   MSU   TW076   MSU   TW077   MSU   MSU   TW077   MSU   TW077		MSU	DEC10E	Cow		Escherichia coli O121			Hu ma	
Escherichia coli O26	Escherichia coli O26	MSU	DEC9F	Human	-	Escherichia coli O121	MSU		ma	-
Escherichia coli O45	Escherichia coli O26	MSU			-	Escherichia coli O121		9121	Avai labl	-
Escherichia coli O45   MSU   TW140   Human   -   Escherichia coli O145   NCTC   10279   Avai abil   -	Escherichia coli O45	MSU		Human	-	Escherichia coli O142	NCTC	10089	Avai labl	-
Escherichia coli O45	Escherichia coli O45	MSU		Human	-	Escherichia coli 0145	NCTC	10279	Not Avai labl	-
DECIA	Escherichia coli O45	MSU		Human	-	Escherichia coli 0145	MSU		Hu ma	-
Escherichia coli 091   NCTC   9091   NOTC		MSU	DEC1A	Human	-	Escherichia coli O145	MSU		ma	-
Escherichia coli	Escherichia coli O91	NCTC	9091		-	Escherichia coli O146	NCTC	10677	Avai labl	-
Escherichia coli O103   MSU TW076 97		MSU		Human	-	Escherichia coli 0163	NCTC	11021	Fec	-
Escherichia coli O103		MSU		Human	-	Alcaligenes faecalis		8750	Avai labl	-
Escherichia coli   O111   MSU   DEC8D   Human, Infant   -   Enterobacter aerogenes   ATC   13048   Spu tum   -		MSU			-	Citrobacter freundii	ATCC	8090	Avai labl	-
Escherichia coli O111:H12 MSU DEC6A Human, Infant - Escherichia blattae ATCC 29907 kro ach Infant - Escherichia fergusonii ATCC 35469 n - Escherichia coli O111:H8 Not Available - Escherichia hermannii ATCC 33650 n - Toe Escherichia coli O115 NCTC 9113 Not Available - Escherichia vulneris ATCC 29943 n - Escherichia coli O117 NCTC 9117 Not Available - Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis ATCC 9118 Not - Escherichia coli O117 NCTC 9118 Not - Escherichia coli O117 NCTC 9118 Not - Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis ATCC 9118 Not - Escherichia coli NCTC		MSU	DEC8D	-	-	Enterobacter aerogenes	ATC <sup>3</sup>	13048	Spu	-
Escherichia coli O111:H8 MSU DEC6C Human - Escherichia fergusonii ATCC 35469 n n Fec es s		MSU	DEC6A	-	-	Escherichia blattae	ATCC	29907	kro	-
Escherichia coli O113 NCTC 9113 Not Available - Escherichia hermannii ATCC 33650 ma n Toe  Escherichia coli O115 NCTC 10444 Calf - Escherichia vulneris ATCC 29943 n wo und  Escherichia coli O117 NCTC 9117 Not Available - Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis ATCC 10708 Avai labl e		MSU	DEC6C	Human	-	Escherichia fergusonii	ATCC	35469	ma n Fec	-
Escherichia coli O115  NCTC 10444  Calf  -  Escherichia vulneris  ATCC 29943  NOTC  NCTC 9117  Not Available  -  Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis  ATCC 10708  NOTC 10708  NOTC P118  Not Available  -  Escherichia coli NCTC 9118  Not -  Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis		NCTC	9113		-	Escherichia hermannii	ATCC	33650	ma n	-
Escherichia coli O117  NCTC 9117  Not Available - Salmonella enterica subsp.enterica serovar Choleraesuis  ATCC 10708  Not e - Escherichia coli NCTC 9118  Not -		NCTC	10444	Calf	-	Escherichia vulneris	ATCC	29943	Hu ma n Wo	-
Escherichia coli		NCTC	9117		-	I *	ATCC	10708	Not Avai labl	-
	Escherichia coli O118	NCTC	9118	Not Available	-				-	

<sup>&</sup>quot;Michigan State University Culture Collection, East Lansing, MI.

b National Collection of Type Cultures, Public Health England, U.K.

c American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

Table 5: Veriflow 01	57:H7 Assay, (	Candidate vs. Refere	nce – POD Result	s (1)								
B.C. Aurilia	Analysis	Chunin	MPN°/	N <sup>b</sup>		Candi	date		Refere	nce	$dPOD_c^f$	95% CI <sup>g</sup>
Matrix	Time Point	Strain	Test Portion	IN	x <sup>c</sup>	POD <sub>C</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	х	POD <sub>R</sub> <sup>e</sup>	95% CI	aPOD <sub>C</sub>	33% CI
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Raw Ground Beef (20% Fat)	18 h	<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 ATCC <sup>h</sup> 43895	0.49 (0.25, 0.85)	20	9	0.45	0.26, 0.66	7	0.35	0.18, 0.57	0.10	-0.19, 0.37
			3.05 (1.30, 7.19)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
		18 h <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 ATCC 35150	-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
2% Fat Milk	18 h		0.54 (0.29, 0.92)	20	11	0.55	0.34, 0.74	8	0.40	0.22, 0.61	0.15	-0.15, 0.41
			3.72 (1.54, 8.97)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Raw Spinach	18 h	<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 ATCC BAA 460	0.44 (0.21, 0.76)	20	8	0.40	0.22, 0.61	7	0.35	0.18, 0.57	0.05	-0.23, 0.32
			1.84 (0.91, 3.75)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

## Table 6. Veriflow O157:H7 Assay, Presumptive vs. Confirmed – POD Results (1)

B.C. atulia	Analysis	Chunin	MPN <sup>a</sup> /	N <sup>b</sup>		Presum	ptive		Confirm	ned	$dPOD_{CP}^{f}$	95% CI <sup>g</sup>
Matrix	Time Point	Strain	Test Portion	IN	x <sup>c</sup>	POD <sub>CP</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	Х	POD <sub>cc</sub> <sup>e</sup>	95% CI	aPOD <sub>CP</sub>	95% CI*
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Raw Ground Beef (20% Fat )	18 h	E. coli O157:H7 ATCC <sup>h</sup> 43895	0.49 (0.25, 0.85)	20	9	0.45	0.26, 0.66	9	0.45	0.26, 0.66	0.00	-0.28, 0.28
			3.05 (1.30, 7.19)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
2% Fat Milk	18 h	E. coli O157:H7 ATCC 35150	0.54 (0.29, 0.92)	20	11	0.55	0.34, 0.74	11	0.55	0.34, 0.74	0.00	-0.28, 0.28
			3.72 (1.54, 8.97)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Raw Spinach	18 h	E. coli O157:H7 ATCC BAA 460	0.44 (0.21, 0.76)	20	8	0.40	0.22, 0.61	8	0.40	0.22, 0.61	0.00	-0.28, 0.28
		1.84 (0.91, 3.75)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

 $<sup>^{</sup>c}x$  = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>c</sub> = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>POD<sub>R</sub> = Reference method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^{</sup>m f}$ dPOD $_{
m c}$ = Difference between the confirmed candidate method result and reference method confirmed result POD values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>95% CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>x = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>CP</sub> = Candidate method presumptive positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>POD<sub>cc</sub> = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^{</sup>f}$ dPOD $_{CP}$ = Difference between the candidate method presumptive result and candidate method confirmed result POD values.

 $<sup>^9</sup>$ 95% CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

#### **DISCUSSION OF MODIFICATION JANUARY 2016 (9)**

The results of this study demonstrated the specificity, accuracy and reliability of the Veriflow 0157:H7 assay as compared to the traditional FDA BAM Chapter 4A and culture based reference method for the detection of *E. coli* 0157:H7 in whey protein isolate. POD statistical analysis indicate that there is no significant difference in performance between the methods at specific time points as assayed in this study, and importantly, no false positive or false negative results were observed in the

The Veriflow O157:H7 assay provides flexibility and ease of use for the end user by providing accurate results across multiple food matrixes, without complex sample preparation after enrichment. The Veriflow system also offers significant savings in time compared to the reference methods used in this study, by producing accurate presumptive results after an enrichment time of only 18-20 hours, as compared to the reference methods that require 3–4 days to reach presumptive results. The robustness and lot-to-lot stability data also indicated that the assay is reproducible and rugged and that it can be manufactured uniformly and consistently. Thus the results of this study demonstrated that the easy to follow Veriflow O157:H7 protocol provides for a sensitive, reliable and simple to use rapid detection method for *E. coli* O157:H7.

B.C. during	Analysis	Chunin	MPN <sup>a</sup> /	N <sup>b</sup>		Candi	date		Refere	nce	$dPOD_c^f$	95% CI <sup>g</sup>
Matrix	Time Point	Strain	Test Portion	N	x <sup>c</sup>	POD <sub>C</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	Х	POD <sub>R</sub> <sup>e</sup>	95% CI	aPOD <sub>C</sub>	95% CI*
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Whey protein isolate powder	20 h	E. coli O157:H7 ATCC <sup>h</sup> 35150	0.97	20	14	0.70	0.48, 0.85	12	0.6	0.42, 0.75	0.10	-0.17, 0.33
			2.85	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

#### Table 2. Veriflow O157:H7 Assay, Presumptive vs. Confirmed – POD Results (9)

	Analysis Time		MPN°/	N <sup>b</sup>		Presum	ptive		Confirm	med	$dPOD_{CP}^f$	95% CI <sup>g</sup>
Matrix	Point	Strain	Test Portion	IN	x <sup>c</sup>	POD <sub>CP</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	Х	POD <sub>cc</sub> <sup>e</sup>	95% CI	aPOD <sub>CP</sub>	95% CI*
			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
Whey protein isolate powder	20 h	E. coli 0157:H7 ATCC <sup>h</sup> 35150	0.97	20	14	0.70	0.48, 0.85	14	0.70	0.48, 0.85	0.00	-0.28, 0.28
			2.85	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

 $<sup>^{</sup>c}x$  = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>c</sub> = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^</sup>ePOD_R$  = Reference method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^</sup>f$ dPOD $_c$ = Difference between the confirmed candidate method result and reference method confirmed result POD values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>95% CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>x = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>CP</sub> = Candidate method presumptive positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>POD<sub>CC</sub> = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^{</sup>f}$ dPOD $_{CP}$ = Difference between the candidate method presumptive result and candidate method confirmed result POD values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>95% CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

#### **DISCUSSION OF MODIFICATION JANUARY 2016 (11)**

The results of this study demonstrated the specificity, accuracy and reliability of the Veriflow 0157:H7 assay as compared to the traditional USDA/FSIS MLG chapter 5.09 culture based reference methods for the detection of *E. coli* O157:H7 in 375-gram raw meat (beef trim), samples. POD statistical analysis indicate that there is no significant difference in performance between the methods as assayed in this study, and importantly, no false positive or false negative results were observed in the entirety of the study.

The Veriflow O157:H7 assay provides flexibility and ease of use for the end user by providing accurate results across multiple food matrixes, without complex sample preparation after enrichment. The Veriflow system also offers significant savings in time compared to the reference methods used in this study, by producing accurate presumptive results after an enrichment time of only 18 hours, as compared to the reference methods that require 3–4 days to reach presumptive results. Thus the results of this study demonstrated that the easy to follow Veriflow O157:H7 protocol provides for a sensitive, reliable and simple to use rapid detection method for *E. coli* O157:H7 in 375-gram raw meat samples.

Table 1: Veriflow O157:H7 Assay, Candidate vs. Reference – POD Results (11)

Matrix	Analysis Time		MPN°/	N <sup>b</sup>		Candi	date		Refere	nce	$dPOD_c^f$	95% CI <sup>g</sup>
IVIALITIX	Point	Strain	Test Portion	IN	xc	POD <sub>C</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	Х	$POD_R^e$	95% CI	aPOD <sub>c</sub>	95% CI
Raw Beef 18 h			-	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
	E. coli O157:H7	0.39 (0.18, 0.68)	20	7	0.35	0.18, 0.57	5	0.25	0.11, 0.47	0.10	-0.18, 0.36	
		ATCC <sup>*</sup> 43895	3.05 (1.30, 7.19)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

Table 2. Veriflow 0157:H7 Assav. Presumptive vs. Confirmed - POD Results (11)

	Analysis	Class to	MPN <sup>a</sup> /	N <sup>b</sup>		Presum	ptive		Confirm	ned	$dPOD_{CP}^{f}$	95% CI <sup>9</sup>
Matrix	Time Point	Strain	Test Portion	IN	xc	POD <sub>CP</sub> <sup>d</sup>	95% CI	Х	POD <sub>cc</sub> <sup>e</sup>	95% CI	aPOD <sub>CP</sub>	
Raw Beef Trim 18 h			=	5	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0	0.00	0.00, 0.43	0.00	-0.43, 0.43
	18 h	<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 ATCC <sup>h</sup> 43895	0.39 (0.18, 0.68)	20	7	0.35	0.18, 0.57	7	0.35	0.18, 0.57	0.00	-0.28, 0.28
			3.05 (1.30, 7.19)	5	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	5	1.00	0.57, 1.00	0.00	-0.43, 0.43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>MPN = Most Probable Number is based on the POD of reference method test portions using the LCF MPN calculator version 1.6, with 95% confidence interval.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

 $<sup>^{</sup>c}x$  = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>c</sub> = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>POD<sub>R</sub> = Reference method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^</sup>f$ dPOD $_c$ = Difference between the confirmed candidate method result and reference method confirmed result POD values.

 $<sup>^995\%</sup>$  CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>N = Number of test potions.

cx = Number of positive test portions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>POD<sub>CP</sub> = Candidate method presumptive positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^{</sup>e}POD_{cc}$  = Candidate method confirmed positive outcomes divided by the total number of trials.

 $<sup>^{</sup>f}$ dPOD $_{
m CP}$ = Difference between the candidate method presumptive result and candidate method confirmed result POD values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>95% CI = If the confidence interval of a dPOD does not contain zero, then the difference is statistically significant at the 5% level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>h</sup>American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VI.