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**Presenter Information**

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# DETERMINATION OF AEROBIC MESOPHILIC BACTERIA AND COLIFORMS IN RAW MILK IN THE REGION OF PRISHTINA, LIPJAN AND RAHOVEC

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**ABSTRACT.** The microbiological quality of raw milk is key to the quality production of dairy products. Alternation is a term that describes the change of composition, taste and smell at those points where it is inedible for the consumer. Microbial alternation of milk often involves degradation of proteins, carbohydrates and fats of organisms and their enzymes. Milk and dairy consumption has increased considerably in Kosovo over the last decade, and a large part of local production comes from small-scale distributors across the country. In this research, 50 milk samples were taken at some of the cumulative sites and from dairy farms in three Kosovo municipalities (Prishtina, Lipjan and Rahovec). The microbiological quality of the milk samples is analyzed according to official standards. Further, in raw milk, a number of aerobic mesophilic bacteria and number of coliforms were analyzed. Aerobic mesophilic bacteria in fresh milk, used as raw material, did not show more than  $2.0 \times 10^6$  cfu / ml, whereas coliforms were presented at 4 cfu / ml

**Keywords:** milk, mesophilic, aerobic, coliform, cfu.

## INTRODUCTION

Milk is an ideal environment, with a high content of water, enough nutritional elements and an almost neutral Ph (Ph 6,4 – 6,8) that favorites the growth of many microorganisms. Microorganisms in milk can be classified in two main groups: pathogens and responsible microorganisms of the demolition and some of them can play a multiple role (ex. *Bacillus cereus*). Pathogens microorganisms represent a threat to public health. Due to their enzymes (ex. proteases, peptidase, lipase, esterase, oxidase, polymerase,  $\beta$ -galaktozidaza,) responsible microorganisms of demolition are able to hydrolyzate the ingredients of milk, such as protein, fat and lactose appropriately, to gain necessary ingredients for their growth (Andrews, A.T., Anderson, M. & Goodenough, P.W. (1987). Such reactions can cause demolition of milk that may be accompanied by a change of smell, taste and changes in the quality and view of milk (Frank & Hassan, 2003). Microorganisms are spread mainly in dirty environments of farm in milk (ex. faeces, straw chesis and earth. Absorbing microorganisms of the outside can enter in the canal channel and can cause mastitis (Makovec & Ruegg, 2003). As a conclusion, we can say that the contamination resources are inadequacy of cleanliness of milking equipment, which then can pass in milk (Chambers, 2002).

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

50 samples were taken in some selling points in Prishtina, Rahovec and Lipjan. Just after getting the samples, they were placed in the conveyor freezer, and we are assured that until the sample is mixed and in full homogeneity. Then, an amount of 30ml of milk was transferred in a facitious way. For every sample we have used a test tube. The samples were transferred in 0-4°C temperature until they were brought to the laboratory.

Methods of examination of aerobic mesophile bacteria based in ISO- 4832-1:2013. Microbiology of food chain- Horizontal methods of counting the microorganisms. First part: counting in 30°C through pouring technique and the method of Coliforms ISO 4832:2006. The microbiology of food and animal food products-Horizontal method of counting the coliforms-Counting technique.

2 plates of Petrit were taken for the counting of aerob mesophiles. The transfer is made for each steril pipette from 1 ml of sample. Only critical dillutions were taken for inoculin in the plate of Pjetrit, to develop a colony between 150-300 per plate. For the nutritional area was used plate count approximately 12-15 ml in a temperature of 44-47 °C in each plate. The duration from the moment of preparation of the initial dilution to pouring of the nutritious terrain in plates, no more than 45 min were needed.

Carefully, the plates were mixed and are left in rigid horizontal positions until they are hardened. the plates are incubated in a temperature of 30 °C ±1°C for 72h ±3h.

The counting of colonies is made like this, plates with more than 15 colonies and less than 300 colonies were counted.



**Fig. 1.** Work in the Microbiology Laboratory

After the incubation, a counting for specific colonies was made using the calculator. For the counting of coliforms was used a hardened nutritional terrain, Crystal violet neutral red bile lactose (VRBL) agar. The microbiology of food and animal food- The preparation of samples, dry or liquid slurry, Incubator, Plates of Pjetrit, 90mm, Pipetor, 1ml, aquatic baths, counter of colonies, tube tests, Durham Tubes, lab bottles, pH-meter, Eza from platinum – iridium or nicel-crome, approximately 3mm per diameter, or eza for one use. 2 plates were taken, where the tested material is transferred by a steril pipette 1ml from the corresponding dillution, in the center of each plate. Then, 15ml of VRBLA were thrown in a temperature of 44 °C - 47 °C in each Pjetri plate. After the complete hardening, 4 ml of the VRBLA terrain were thrown in 44°C to 47°C, on the surface of inoculated terrains. After the hardening, the plates were inacubated in 37°C per 24 h± 2 h. After the appointed period of inacubation, the plates of Petrit with more than 10 colonies and less than 150 colonies were taken for counting. The counting was made using the counting equipment of colonies, the colonist in red with a diameter at least 0/5 mm (sometimes surrounded from the red precipated zones. The confirmation was made by pointing 5 typical colonies, in a liquid areaBriliant green lactose, incubated in 37°C per 24 h± 2 h temperature. Only the colonies that formed gas in Durham tubes were counted.

The formula for the counting of bacterial colonies is like this:

$$N = \frac{\sum C}{V \times (n_1 \times 0.1 + n_2)} \times d$$

- \* N – the number of microorganisms in 1 gr sample
- \*ΣC – the amount of microorganisms in counted plates
- \*n1 – the number of plates in the intitial dillution
- \* n2 – the number of plates in the second dillution
- \*d – the dillution factor

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the table below, are given data for microbiological incubators of every type of fredh milk, of each sample through development. The data are the average values of analyzed samples during this study for mesophile bacterias and coliforms in fresh milk. Generally, inside the analyzed type of milk could have been big deviations of measured values.

**Table 1:** The general number of mesophile bacterias and coliforms in fresh milk in the regions of Prishtina, Rahovec and Lipjan.

<i>The sampling region</i>	<i>The average of mesophile aerob bacteria</i>	<i>The average number of coliforms</i>
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.54 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.8 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$2.78 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.5 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.51 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.7 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.53 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$3.2 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$2.4 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$2.17 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$2.1 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.15 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.82 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$2.95 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.05 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.2 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<i>Prishtinë</i>	$1.9 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Average</b>	<b><math>1.90 \times 10^6</math> cfu/ml</b>	<b>3.35 cfu/ml</b>

<b>The sampling region</b>	<b>The average of mesophile aerob bacteria</b>	<b>The average number of coliforms</b>
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.6 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$3.2 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.9 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.5 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	9 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$1.3 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	9 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$3.2 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$1.55 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	3 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.7 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$4.2 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$3.2 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.8 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$1.33 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.9 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.8 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$3.3 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$2.52 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
<b>Rahovec</b>	$1.2 \times 10^7$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
<b>Average</b>	<b><math>2.60 \times 10^6</math> cfu/ml</b>	<b>4.06 cfu/ml</b>

The sampling region	The average of mesophile aerob bacteria	The average number of coliforms
Lipjan	$4.9 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	0 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.5 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	7 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.6 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$2.0 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$2.1 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.0 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.0 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.2 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	2 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$2.1 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.1 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.6 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	9 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.8 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.9 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	6 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$1.8 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$2.2 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$3.1 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	1 cfu/ml
Lipjan	$4.8 \times 10^5$ cfu/ml	5 cfu/ml
Average	$2.10 \times 10^6$ cfu/ml	4.59 cfu/ml

From the gained results we can see that the total bacterial microfloras inside the standard norms in three regions: Prishtina  $1.90 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml, Rahovec  $2.60 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml, Lipjan  $2.10 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml, and the total average is  $2.20 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml. The content of coliform microorganisms is in the described limit from the standard. The high presence of coliforms is found in the region of Lipjan  $4.59$  cfu/ml, then in Rahovec  $4.06$  cfu/ml and in Prishtina  $3.35$  cfu/ml. In the second year prevails a high load of thermophile bacteria comparing to the content of the bacteria mesophile.

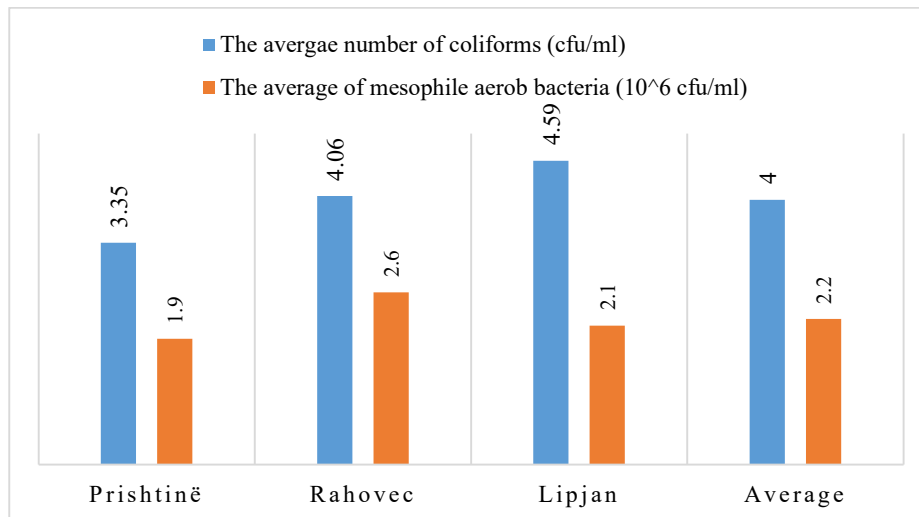


Fig 1: Average of total number of mesophilic bacteria and coliforms in fresh milk in regions of research.

## CONCLUSION

Bacterial microflora is studied to evaluate the hygiene of production system, before the usage, which then is reflected in the bacterial loads of milk after pasteurization. Every fresh milk tell a total bacterial microflora inside the standard.

During the determination of the number of aerobic mezophilic bacteria in the region of Pristina we have generated this average  $1.90 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml, in the region of Rahovec  $2.60 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml, and in the region of Lipjan  $2.10 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml.

Starting from the content of coliforms that have resulted in each fresh milk, results in a re-contamination after usage, telling poor hygiene practices. For this reason, it is recommended maintaining of aspectual conditions in the tubes of processing and packaging lines.

The average number of coliforms in three regions is as below: We have low values in Prishtina 3.35 cfu/ml, then in Rahovec we have 4.06 cfu/ml, and an increase in no normal standards in Lipjan 4.59 cfu/ml.

It is recommended to store the unprocessed milk in 2°C, which has resulted to be effective in the growth of fresh milk life comparing to the store beyond 4°C and 7°C.

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