

Total Coliform and E. coli Testing

Safe water starts with a simple test.

For water testing laboratories that depend on reliable results, Neogen® is a microbiology water expert providing advanced solutions to protect the people and animals we care about.

Colitag protects every drop with reliable detection of total coliforms and *E. coli*. Now paired with the Neogen MPNTray[™], Colitag delivers more insight from every sample with dependable quantitative MPN results.

Reliable Detection

Colitag provides highly sensitive performance, detecting as low as 1 CFU of total coliforms and *E. coli* in a 100 mL water sample. Supports both qualitative Presence/Absence (P/A) and quantitative Most Probable Number (MPN) testing methods.

Simple and Flexible Workflow

With a convenient ready-to-use format, Colitag eliminates the need for media preparation or additional confirmation steps. With a flexible read window, you can obtain answers in as little as 16 hours, with results valid up to 48 hours.

Broad Application Across Industries

Colitag is designed for versatility, making it ideal for use across municipal water systems, commercial laboratories, food and beverage manufacturers, agriculture, and environmental monitoring.

Regulatory Compliance You Can Trust

Colitag is EPA-approved for detecting total coliforms and *E. coli* in drinking water, meeting a critical benchmark for public water systems. It is also FDA-approved for use in dairy source water and compliant with agricultural water standards, making it a trusted choice for food and beverage safety programs.



How Colitag Works

Clear, Visual Results

Results are easy to interpret, with total coliforms detected with a distinct yellow color change. *E. coli*, is detected with both yellow color and blue fluorescence under UV light. Samples do not require further confirmation or verification steps.

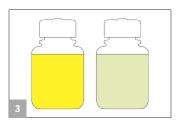
P/A Method



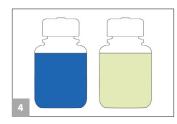
Add Colitag media to 100 mL water sample.



Incubate from 16 hours up to 48 hours at 35+/-0.5°C.



Visually check the sample for yellow color, if the sample is equal to or more yellow than the Comparator, it is positive for coliforms.



Visually check fluorescence using a UV lamp (365 nm). If the sample fluoresces, it is positive for *E. coli*.

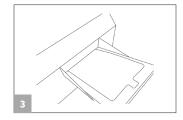
MPN Method



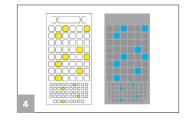
Add Colitag media to 100 mL water sample.



Pour sample mixture into the MPNTray.



Seal the tray and incubate from 16 hours up to 48 hours at 35+/-0.5°C.



Visually check wells for yellow color (coliforms) and fluorescence using a UV light (*E. coli*). Count the positive wells and use the MPN table to determine results.

Results Interpretation

Target Organism	Substrate Used	Enzyme Detected	Positive Result
Total Coliform	ONPG (ortho-nitrophenyl -β-D-galactopyranoside)	β-galactosidase	Yellow color
E. coli	MUG (4-methylumbelliferyl -β-D-glucuronide)	β-glucuronidase	Yellow color and blue fluorescence under UV

Ordering Information

700002856	Colitag Water Test System, 20 pack
700002857	Colitag Water Test System, 100 pack
700006475	Colitag Sample Container w/ Sodium TS, 100 pack
700004091	Colitag Sample Container w/ Powdered Sodium TS, 100 pack
700004089	Colitag Sample Container w/o Sodium TS, 100 pack
700004088	Colitag Sample Container w/o Sodium TS, FlipTop, 100 pack
100001421	Colitag Sample Container w/ Sodium TS, FlipTop, 100 pack
700002860	Colitag Comparator, 100 mL
700003776	Colitag QC Testing Kit
700007707	MPNTray (97-well)

Approvals

EPA-approved for determination of total coliforms and E. coli in drinking water at 40 CFR 141.852(a)(5)

EPA-approved for determining *E. coli* under the Ground Water Rule

FDA-approved for dairy source waters

FDA inclusion for agricultural water



