

Annex 1. MPN table and calculator comparisons

A number of MPN tables and calculators are compared in the table below for the 5-5-1 to 5-5-5 scenarios. Numbers are c/mL.

	Tables	Tables	Calculator	Calculator	Calculator	Calculator
Matrix	RPHMS 1939*	Thronsdén 1978 **	Blodgett 2010***	EPA ****	Jarvis et al. 2010*****	Jarvis et al. 2010, 1 extra blank row
5-5-1	35	35	35	35	35	33
5-5-2	60	54	54	54	54	49
5-5-3	90	92	92	92	92	79
5-5-4	160	160	161	161	160	130
5-5-5	180+	240+	-	-	∞	240

*Anonymous (1939)

**Thronsdén (1978)

***Blodgett R (2010) Bacteriological Analytical Manual Appendix 2. Most Probable Number from Serial Dilutions (<https://www.fda.gov/food/laboratory-methods-food/bam-appendix-2-most-probable-number-serial-dilutions>)

****<https://mostprobablenumbercalculator.epa.gov/index.html>

*****Jarvis et al. (2010)

Blodgett (2010) warns not to add blank rows, otherwise his program reports an error. An extra blank row can be inserted in the Wilrich calculator (Jarvis et al. 2010) which then gives an estimate of 240 c/mL. As in the Thronsdén (1978) table this estimate should be reported as 240+ or >240 c/mL.