

**EHIA'S RECOMMENDED MICROBIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION FOR
TRADE IN HERBAL INFUSION RAW MATERIALS**

Issue 5, August 28th, 2009

**EHIA'S RECOMMENDED MICROBIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION
FOR HERBAL INFUSIONS (DRY)**

Issue 2, August 28th, 2009

EHIA'S RECOMMENDED MICROBIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION FOR TRADE IN HERBAL INFUSION RAW MATERIALS

<i>Aerobic Plate Count</i>	max. 1×10^8 / g
<i>Yeasts (Mint excluded)¹⁾</i>	max. 1×10^6 / g
<i>Moulds</i>	max. 1×10^6 / g
<i>E. coli</i>	max. 1×10^4 / g
<i>Salmonella</i>	absent in 125 g

SAMPLING

- 5 random samples of 50 g are to be collected from the shipment.
- The 5 samples will be mixed to a composite sample.
- The composite sample is the basis for all laboratory investigations, including salmonella.

METHODS ***Aerobic Plate Count**

Microbiology – General guidance for enumeration of microorganisms – Colony count technique at 30 °C – 1991 (ISO 4833)

Yeasts and Moulds

Microbiology – General guidance for enumeration of yeasts and moulds – Colony count technique at 25 °C – 1987 (ISO 7954)

E. coli

Meat & meat products - Enumeration of Escherichia coli - Colony count technique at 44 °C – 1988 (ISO 6391)

Salmonella

Microbiology – General guidance on methods for detection of Salmonella – 2002 (ISO 6579)
(in Germany official method ASU L00.00-52)

* Other methods can be used if they are checked against a reference method (official method and suitability tested (recovery of reference microorganisms)).

¹⁾ For mint no yeast specification is applicable due to the high natural yeast load.

**EHIA'S RECOMMENDED MICROBIOLOGICAL SPECIFICATION
FOR HERBAL INFUSIONS (DRY)**

<i>Aerobic Plate Count</i>	max. 1×10^7 / g
<i>Yeasts</i>	max. 1×10^5 / g
<i>Moulds</i>	max. 1×10^5 / g
<i>E. coli</i>	max. 1×10^3 / g
<i>Salmonella</i>	absent in 125 g

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ADDITIONAL REMARK

Herbal infusions are parts of plants which are intended for infusing with freshly boiling water and brewing for at least 5 minutes/5-x minutes.

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