The significance of proteolytic psychrotrophs as a cause of milk flocculation / protein instability

(PRJ-0091-2016)

University of the Free State

Quarter 3 2016 (July 2016 till September 2016)

Project goals

Objective 1 - To do a literature review of psychrotrophic counts and types in refrigerated milk, the potential sources of contamination and the seasonal effect on the prevalence of the bacterial contaminants: January 2016 – May 2016, but also adding new information as it becomes available (until 2018)

Achievements

The literature review has been completed and will be updated until the end of 2016.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Objective 2 - Evaluation of accelerated quantitative methods for the detection of psychrotrophic bacteria in milk. Goal: To compare conventional methods for detection of psychrotrophic bacteria with accelerated methods. Milk samples will also be subjected to incubation at 7 oC until the milk flocculates and the prevalent bacterial types isolated from Pseudomonas selective agar at that point will be identified: March 2016 - September 2016

Achievements

This objective consists of two parts. The first part evaluates and compares accelerated methods for detection of psychrotrophic vacteria with each other and entailed taking samples from 10 farmers on a weekly basis for 6 weeks. The conventional psychrotrophic count, accelerated psychrotrophic count, total bacteria count, coliform count, proteolytic count (using two media) were performed on samples arriving from the samples and on samples after the milk has flocculated.

The second part of this objective entails the identification of proteolytic organisms on media such as skim milk agar and CAS agar as well as from Pseudomonas selective agar. This part of the objective is in the process of being performed.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Objective 3 - To determine the correlation of microbial quality counts of raw milk with accelerated psychrotrophic tests. Goal: To compare the total bacteria counts, coliform counts and psychrotrophic counts of bulk raw milk and the Psychro-Fast test. The most prevalent psychrotrophic bacterial types when the milk flocculates will also be determined: March - September 2016

Achievements

The comparison of the correlation of the microbial quality counts of raw milk with the accelerated psychrotrophic tests will be evaluated by using statistical methods in October and November of 2016.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	Statement 3.docx
Unnecessary spending during period	No

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Additional documentation

POPULAR REPORT 3.docx

Statement

Levy funds were applied only for the purposes stated in the contract	Yes
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	Yes
Sufficient management and internal control systems were in place to adequately control the project and accurately account for the project expenditure	Yes
The information provided in the report is correct	Yes