## **Successful isolations of STEC**

### -NRL Finland, Helsinki, November 2014 - October 2015



Saija Hallanvuo Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira / Food and Feed Microbiology Unit (saija.hallanvuo@evira.fi)



10th Annual Workshop of the National Reference Laboratories for E. coli in the EU - November 5th  $\,$  - 6th 2015 Rome

## 14th PT of EU-RL (sprouts)

Time: November 2014

#### Culture positive obtained from 7589 (1000 cfu/g level):

- Enrichment: BPW 37°C 20 h (storage in + 4C)
- Plating: Dilution series > plating of dilutions -1 to -7 > Harlequin<sup>™</sup>-CT–SMAC
- Unsuccessful attempts:
  - Direct plating (dilutions 0 to -3),
  - "Normal" IMS O104
  - > plating on EHLY-, CT-SMAC, Harlequin™-CT–SMAC, CHROMagar STEC, RMAC and TBX



## **Trace-back investigation of STEC 0145 infection**

#### Time: March 2015

Patient had eaten lamb casserole

Trace-back to lamb farm and sampling

	PCR positives	Culture positives
Environmental samples	6 / 21	0/6
Feed samples	0/2	-
Fecal samples	10 / 10	2 / 10

#### **Culture positives obtained:**

 Enrichment: mTSB + 16 mg/l novobiocin, 41,5°C for 6 h
Plating: IMS O145 > CHROMagar STEC and Harlequin™-CT– SMAC

 $\Rightarrow$ All isolates recovered through O145 IMS

Isolates were of serotype O128



## 15th PT of EU-RL (sprouts)

Time: April 2015

### Culture positive obtained from 2184 (1000 cfu/g level):

Enrichment: BPW 37°C 22 h (storage in – 20°C)

- Plating: Dilution series > plating of dilutions -5 to -8 > SHIBAM
- (STEC heart infusion washed blood agar with mitomycin-C)
- Second plating: Acid treatment after IMS O111 > SHIBAM and TBX

Unsuccessful attempts:

- Direct plating (dilutions 0 to -3),
- "Normal" IMS O111 and dilutions -1 to -4 thereof
- > plating on SHIBAM-, Harlequin™-CT–SMAC, CHROMagar STEC and TBX



# Sprouting process / Own control sample, green lentil sprouts

Time: June 2015 ISO/TS 13136: 1/5 samples positive in PCR (*stx*2 only, Cq 28)

#### Culture positive obtained from PCR positive:

Enrichment: BPW 37°C /18–24 h (storage in + 4°C)

■Plating: Dilution series > plating of dilutions -5 to -8 > SHIBAM > purification on CHROMagar STEC and Harlequin<sup>™</sup>-CT–SMAC

Unsuccessful attempts:

 Plating of dilutions -5 to -8 > CHROMagar STEC (only untypical growth)

No attempts of IMS since the lack of top-8 serotype signal



# Project on raw milk hygiene / longitudinal monitoring of three farms

Time: February 2014 - May 2015

Sampling of raw milk, milk filters, feces and environment

	PCR positives	Culture positives (serotypes)
Raw milk	52 / 789	1 / 789 (O121)
Milk filters	233 / 631	18 / 632 (O157, O26, NT)*

\*O157 (12 strains), O26 (5 strains), NT (1 strain)

#### **Culture positives obtained:**

- Enrichment: mTSB + 12 mg/l acriflavin 37°C/18–24 h
- Plating: Direct culture and IMS O157
- ≻Harlequin<sup>™</sup>-CT–SMAC and CHROMagar STEC

More information: anniina.jaakkonen@evira.fi



# Summary

- IMS (as described in ISO 16654) often not successful (to non-O157 STEC in food with high background flora?)
- Dilution series after enrichment recommendable
  - Normal plating set for us: SHIBAM-, Harlequin<sup>™</sup>-CT–SMAC, CHROMagar STEC and TBX
- In addition to dilution, acid treatment after IMS O111 was successful in PT 15

