

NCDEA/Dairy Australia

# Is your raw milk giving you a raw deal?

*Steve Flint*

*24<sup>th</sup> April 2015*

The quality of raw milk determines the quality of dairy products



Te Kunenga  
ki Pūrehuroa



MASSEY UNIVERSITY

# Outline of Webinar

- Why is milk quality important
- How to define quality milk
- Sources of contamination
- Tests for milk quality
- How to improve milk quality



# Why is milk quality important?

- To meet customer specifications for microbial content
- To meet sensory requirements
- To meet functionality requirements
- To reduce costs of manufacture (eg. reduce fouling)
- Maximise return for product (eg. protein and fat content)



# Definition of quality milk

- Antibiotic free
- Somatic cell limits (400,000/mL EU/750,000/mL US)
- Meets microbial specifications (Tetra Pak Guidelines)

## Total Bacteria Count    Outcome

**≤ 300 000**

Milk of good quality

**300 000 – 1 million**

Risk for organoleptic problems

**1 million – 5 million**

Risk for organoleptic problems & Shortened shelf life stability due to stability problems

**>5 million**

Not suitable for UHT processing. Product not stable

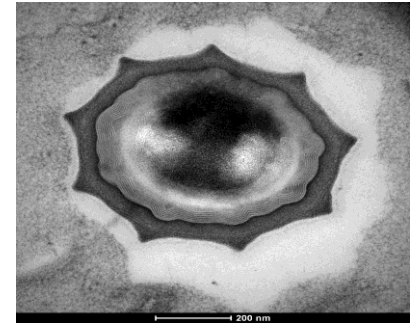
# Other quality issues

- Feed taints
- Chemical residues
- Colostrum/blood
- Added water
- Foreign matter
- Mechanical damage



# Quality Milk – key considerations

- Types of bacteria (sporeformers, enzyme producers)
- Stability of enzymes of microbial origin
  - Lipase
  - Phospholipase
  - Microbial rennet
  - Protease
- Handling of milk (temperature/time)



# Product defects resulting from poor quality milk

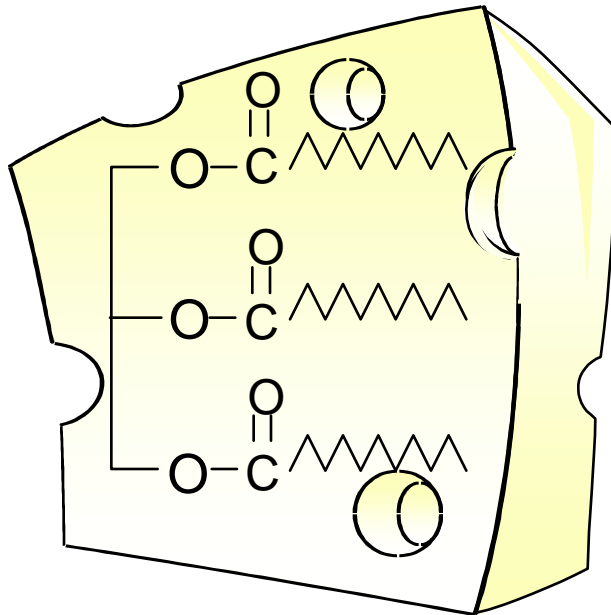
- Bitter flavours (proteases)
- Soapy flavours (lipases)
- Rancidity (lipases)
- Poor yields (fat and protein products)
- Dead vats (cheese)
- Excessive bacterial levels
- Product fouling





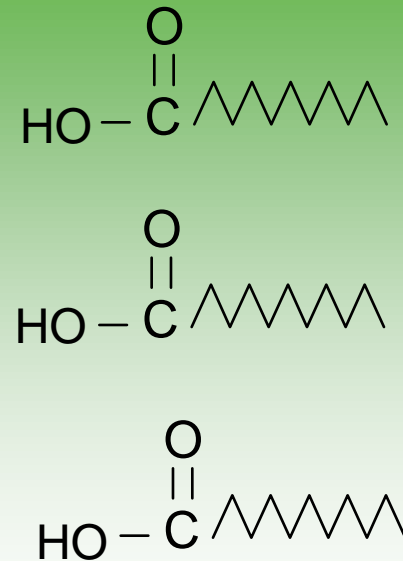
# Lipase activity

33% fat



**Triglyceride**

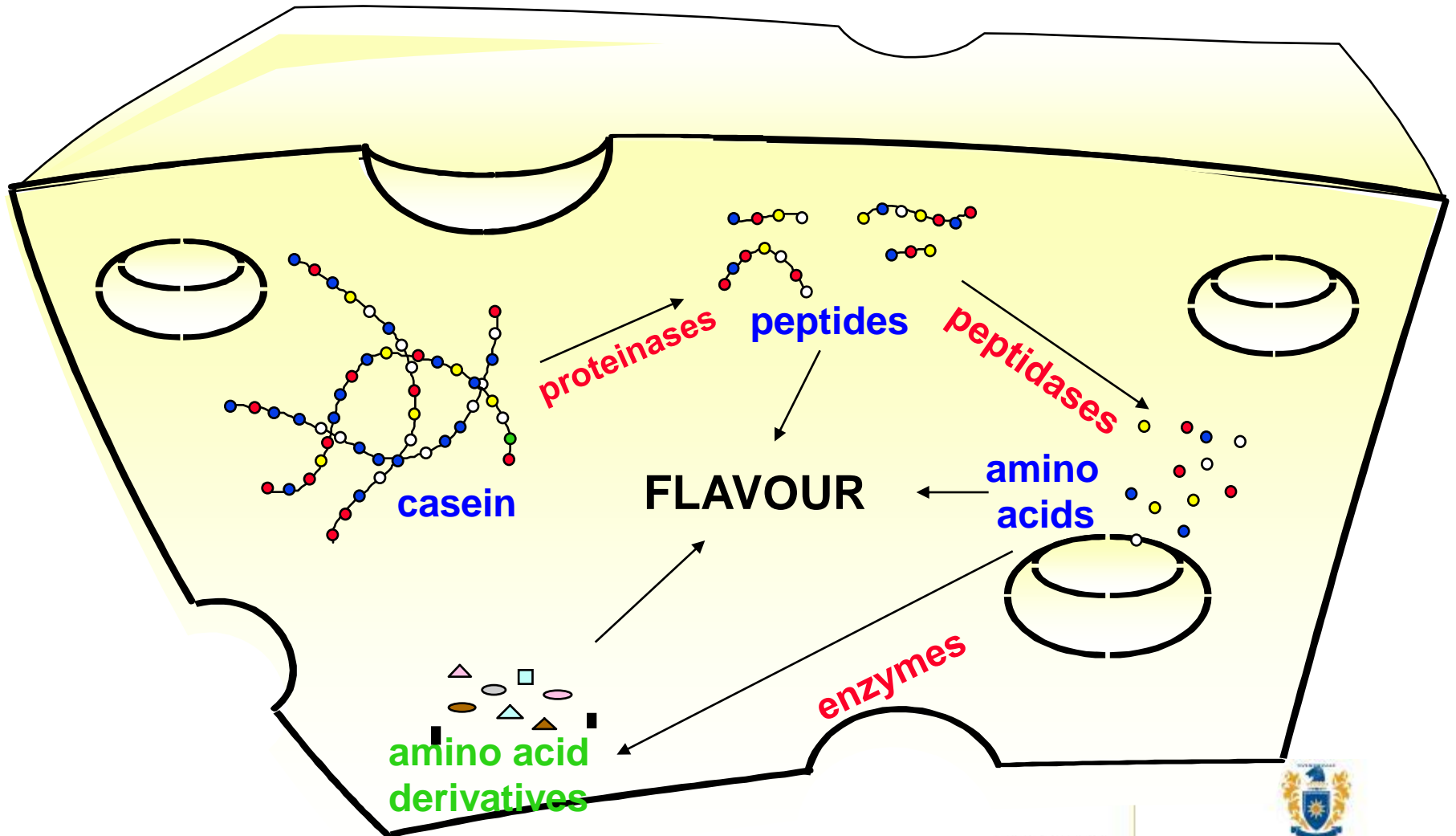
Lipase



**F l a v o u r**

**Free Fatty  
Acids**

# Proteolysis and flavour compounds



# Types of microorganisms in milk

## Microbial type

- Gram negative psychrotrophic bacteria
- Sporeforming bacteria
- Thermotolerant bacteria
- Pathogenic bacteria
- Mastitis bacteria
- Lactic acid bacteria
- Yeast and mould

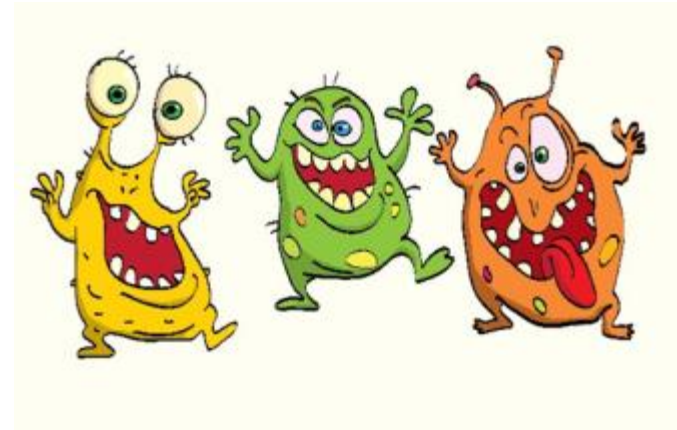
## Outcome/concern

- *Enzyme producers – sensory/fouling/yield*
- *Product contamination*
- *Survive heat treatment*
- *Food Safety*
- *Somatic cells*
- *Acid producers*
- *Acid/sensory*



# Raw milk survey (*de Vegt 2014*)

- Prevalent bacteria
  - *Mycobacterium*
  - *Lactobacillus*
  - *Lactococcus*
  - *Enterococcus*
  - *Chryseobacterium*



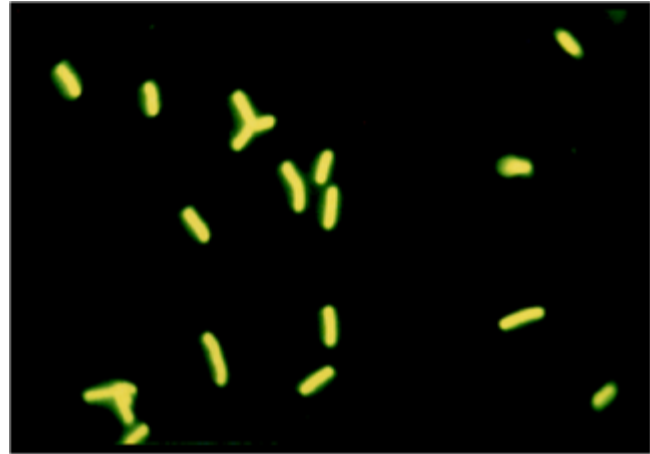
# Raw milk survey (*de Vegt 2014*)

- Less prevalent bacteria
  - *Staphylococcus*
  - *Streptococcus*
  - *Pseudomonas*
  - *Corynebacterium*
  - *Acinetobacter*



# Raw milk survey (*de Vegt 2014*)

- Occasionally detected bacteria
  - *Rhodococcus*
  - *Serratia*
  - *Enterobacter*
  - *Klebsiella*
  - *Micrococcus*
  - *Bacillus cereus*
  - *E. coli*



# Sources of Contamination

- Udder infection
- External surface of udders
- Faecal Shedding
- Milking and storage equipment
- Farming Environment
- Transportation and silo storage



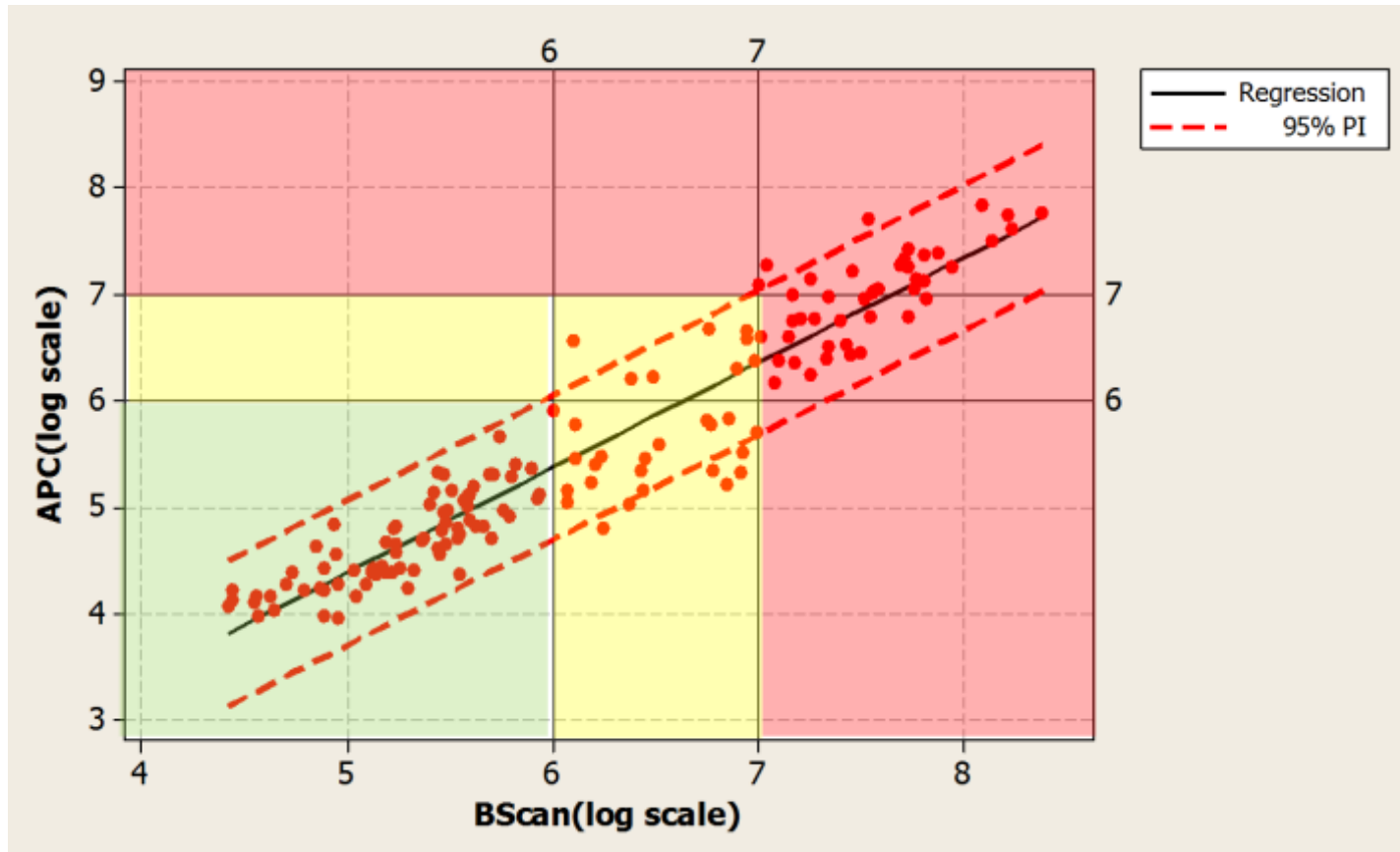
# Tests for raw milk quality

- Antibiotic testing
- Total microbial load
  - APC
  - Bactofos
- Somatic cell counts





# Raw Skim milk regression model that is divided into zones based on the production of heat resistant enzymes



# Alternative microbial tests

- Methylene blue or Rezasurin reduction tests
- Total spore count
- Thermoduric count
- Psychrotrophic count



# Other testing – Chemical/Physical

- pH
- Total acidity
- Alcohol precipitation (protein stability)
- Freezing point
- Density (solid content)



# Comparison between APC and TA results

APC (CFU/mL)	TA (%m/v)
(log scale)	
$10^4$	0.1
$10^5$	0.10-0.13
$10^6$	0.15
$>10^7$	0.17



# Current Raw Milk Requirements

- Australia – Varies from state to state but generally requires milk to be chilled to 4° C.

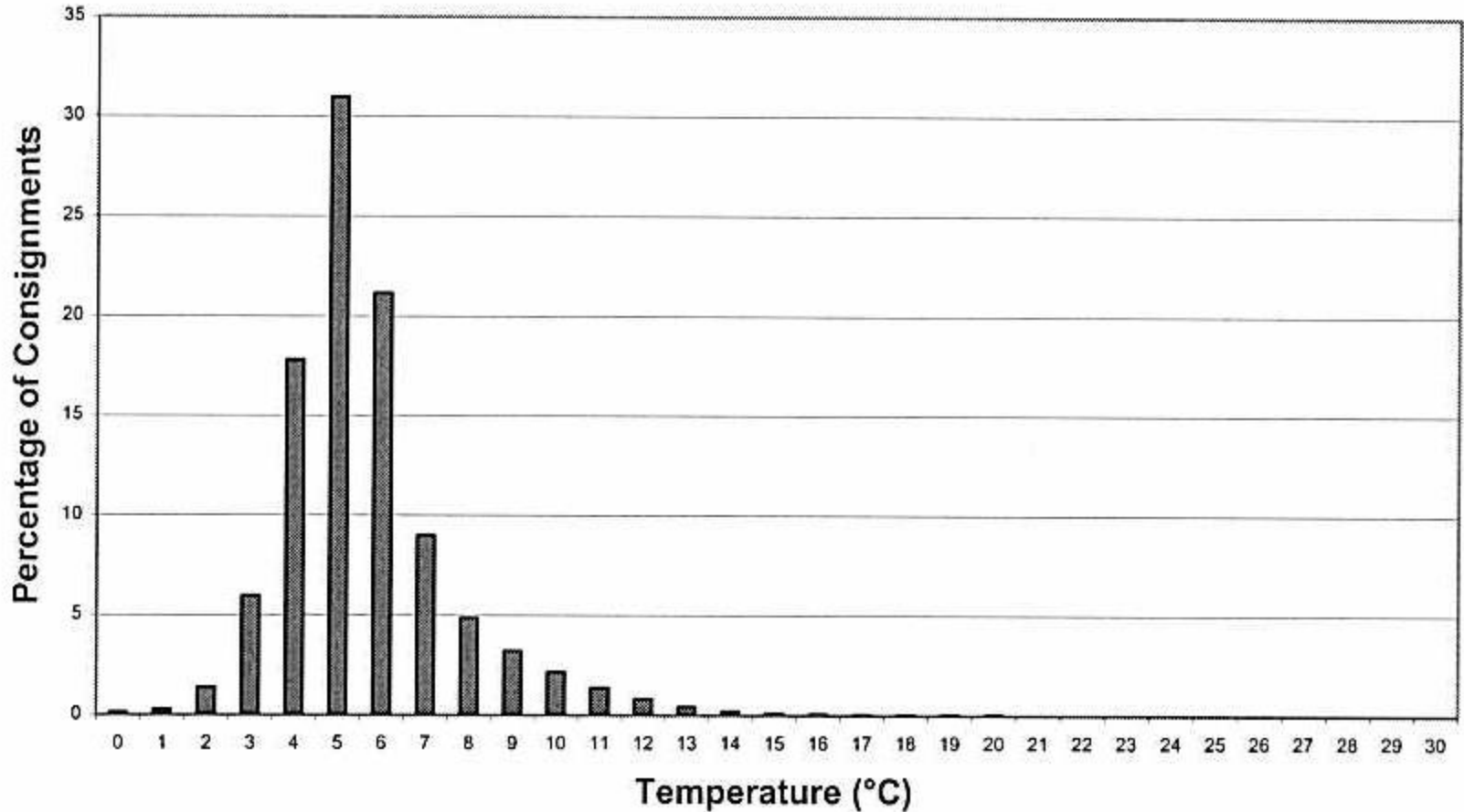


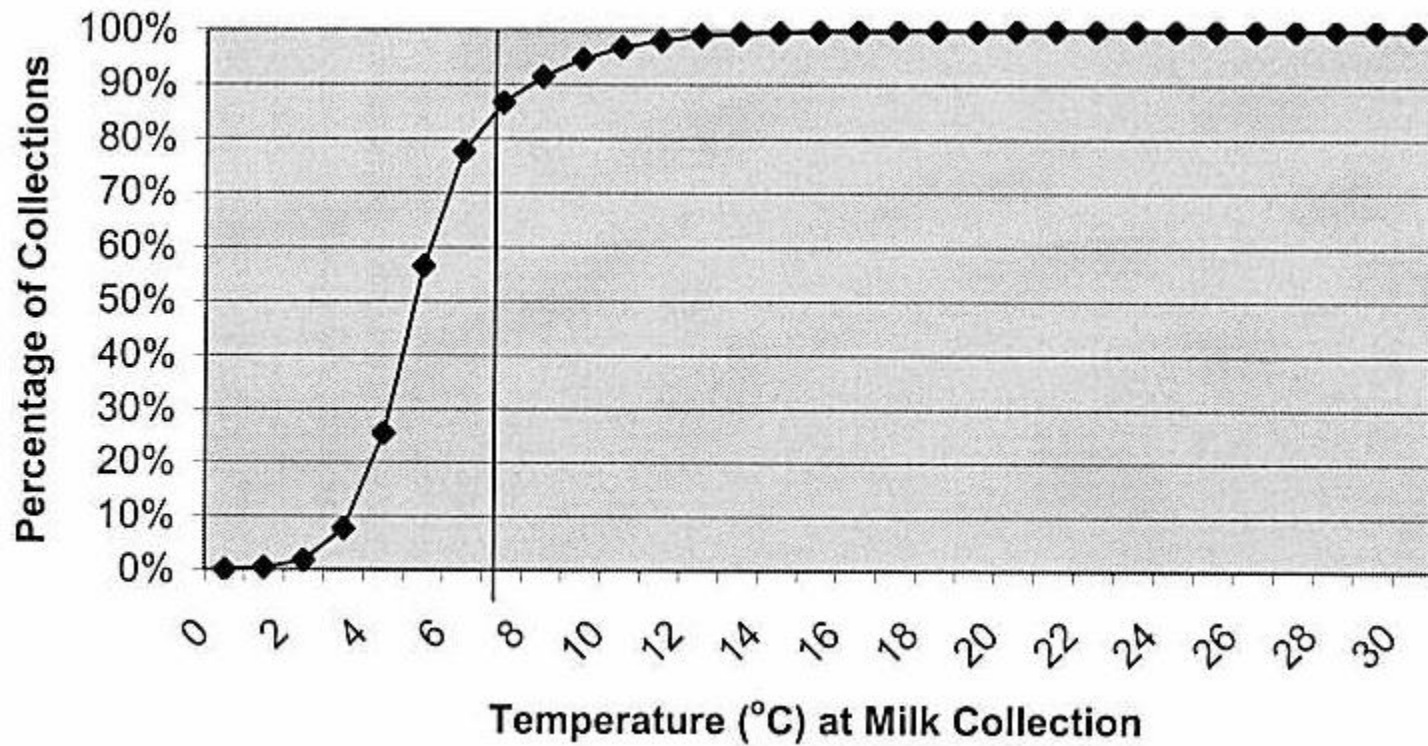
# International Regulations

- New Zealand - 7 °C within 3 hours from the completion of milking. Revised to be 6° C within 6 h of milking.
- USA - 2 °C within 2 h of milking
- EU - 8 °C within 2 h of milking



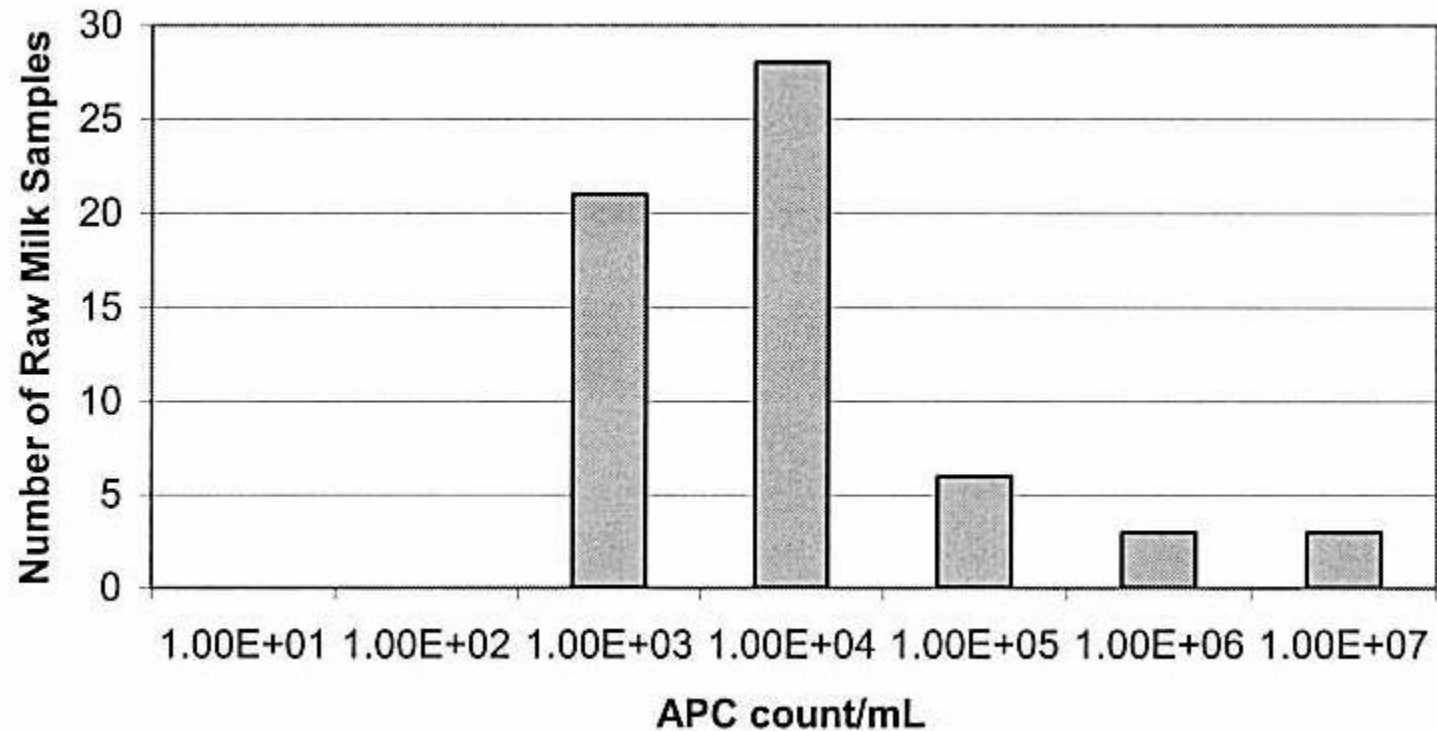
# Milk temperature on farm at the point of collection



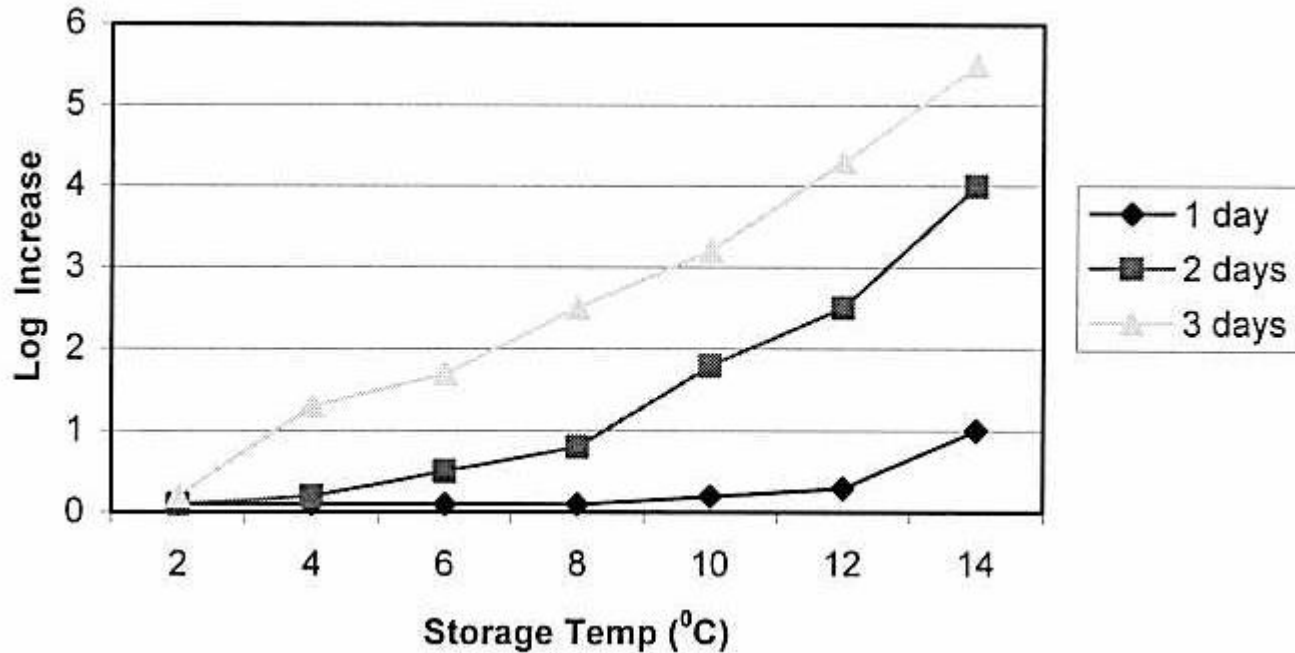




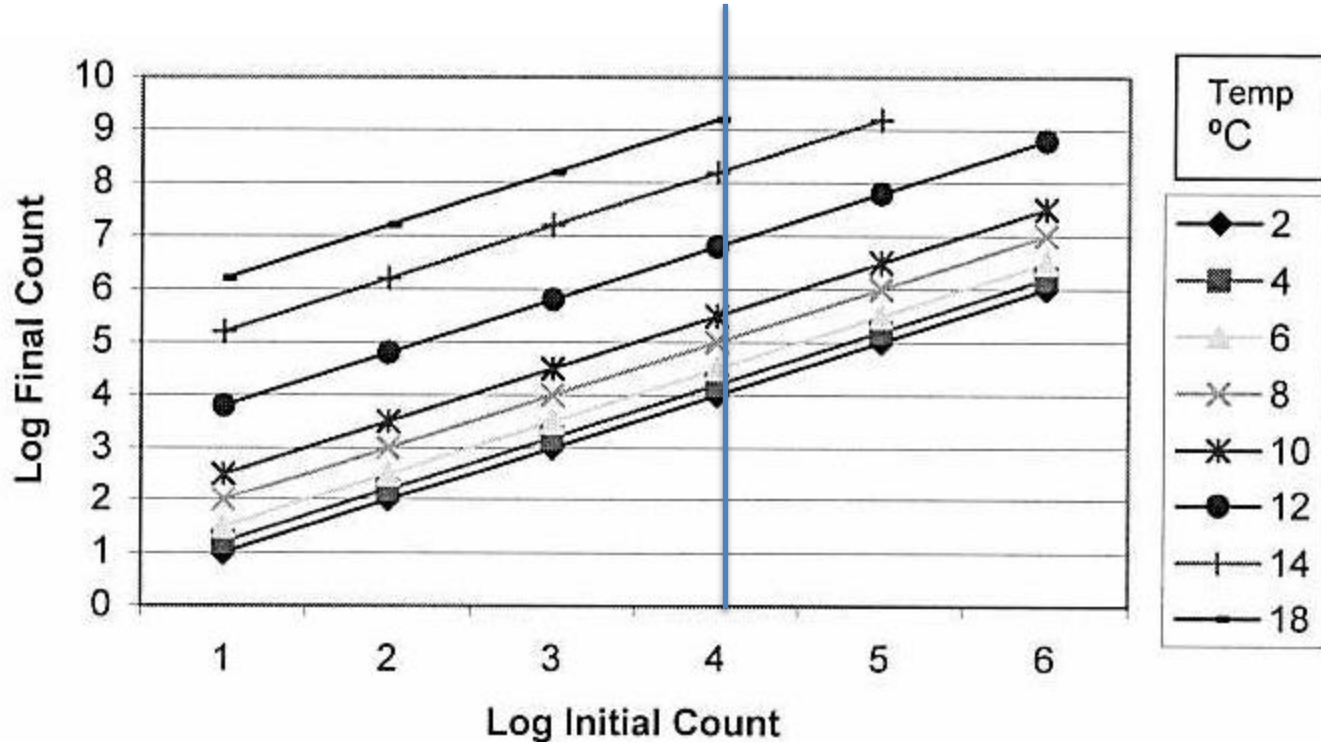
# APC counts in milk – case study on one manufacturing site



# Effect of storage time on APC growth in milk



# Relationship between initial count and average final counts in milk stored for 48 h

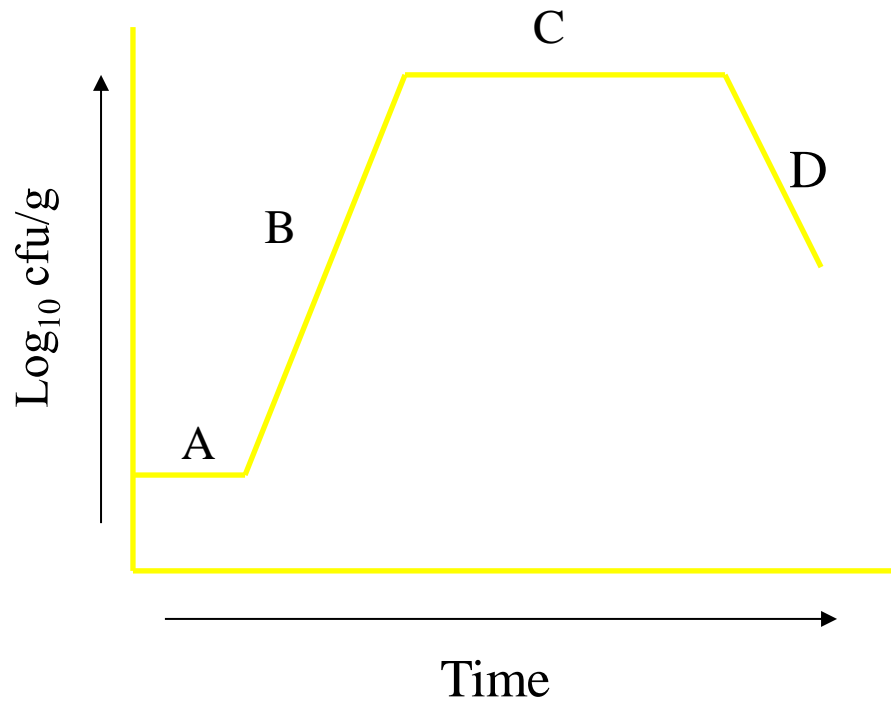


# Effect of delayed cooling on bacterial growth in raw milk

Delay in Cooling to 12.8°C (h)	Total Plate Counts/mL after (h)		
	0	24	48
0	$2.5 \times 10^2$	$3.0 \times 10^3$ (12)*	$2.0 \times 10^6$ (8000)
2	$2.0 \times 10^2$	$1.5 \times 10^4$ (70)	$2.7 \times 10^6$ (13500)
4	$2.3 \times 10^2$	$2.5 \times 10^4$ (110)	$1.5 \times 10^7$ (75000)
8	$1.9 \times 10^2$	$9.3 \times 10^4$ (480)	$4.4 \times 10^7$ (230000)
16	$1.6 \times 10^2$	$1.4 \times 10^7$ (87000)	$4.0 \times 10^7$ (250000)

\* The figure in parentheses gives the number of fold increase over the initial count.

# Microbial Growth Phases



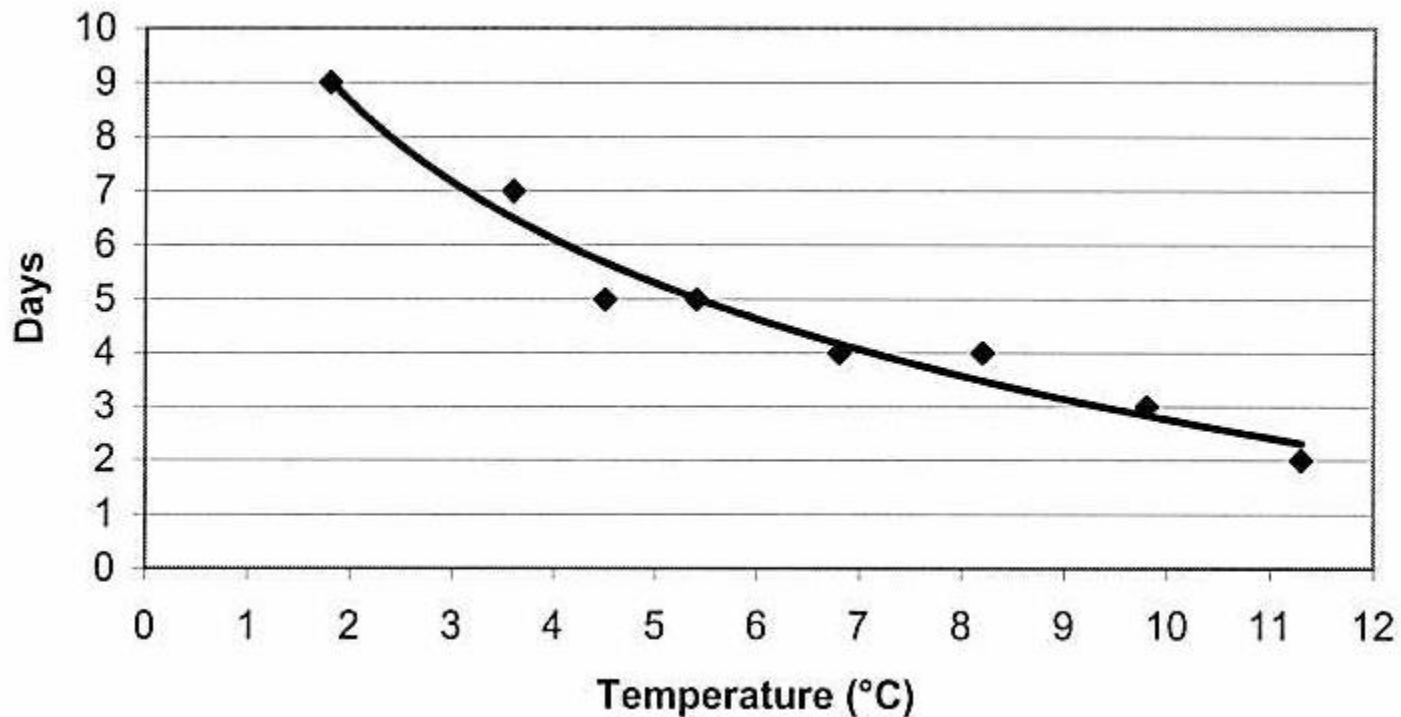
**A=Lag Phase**

**B=Log/Exponential Phase**

**C= Stationary Phase**

**D= Death Phase**

# Lag phase for APC in raw milk at different temperatures



# Effect on speed and temperature of cooling on lag phase

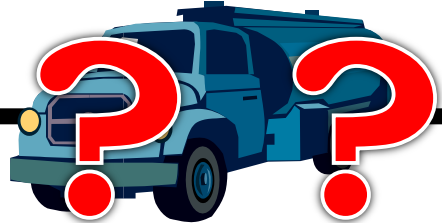
Storage Temperature (°C)	Slow/Rapid Cooling	Trial 1 – Lag (h)		Trial 2 – Lag (h)	
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD
2	Rapid (40 s)	12.6	0.5	14.9	0.5
2	Slow (2 h)	11.6	0.8	15.8	0.2
7	Rapid (40 s)	12.9	0.7	15.2	0.5
7	Slow (2 h)	12.2	0.9	14.5	0.3



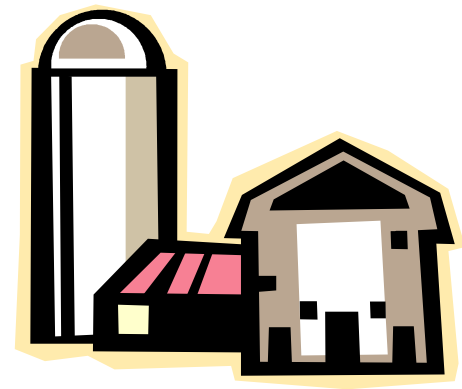


Dairy farm

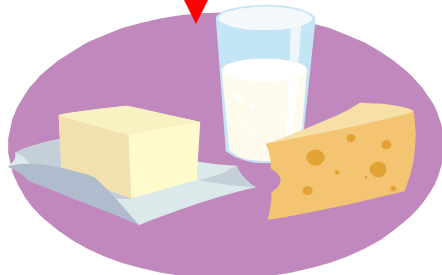
Spoilage enzymes



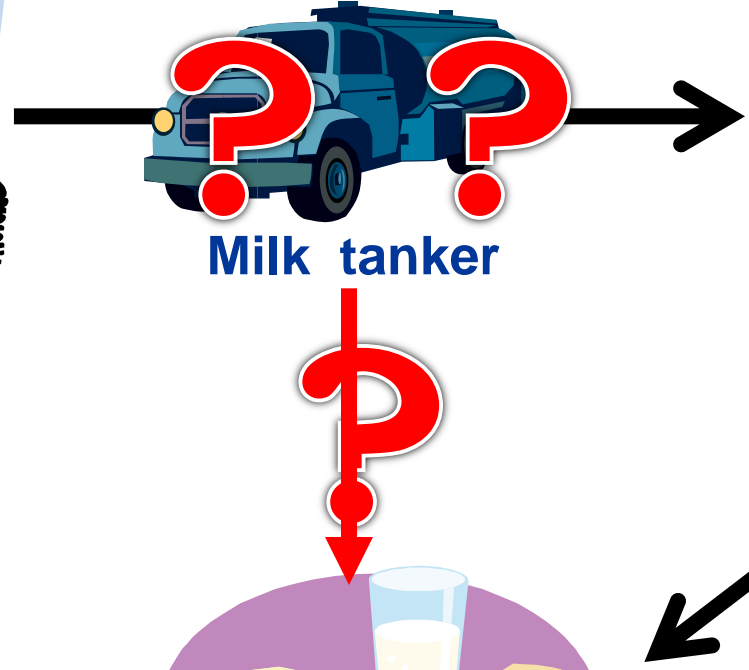
Milk tanker



Dairy processing plant



Dairy products



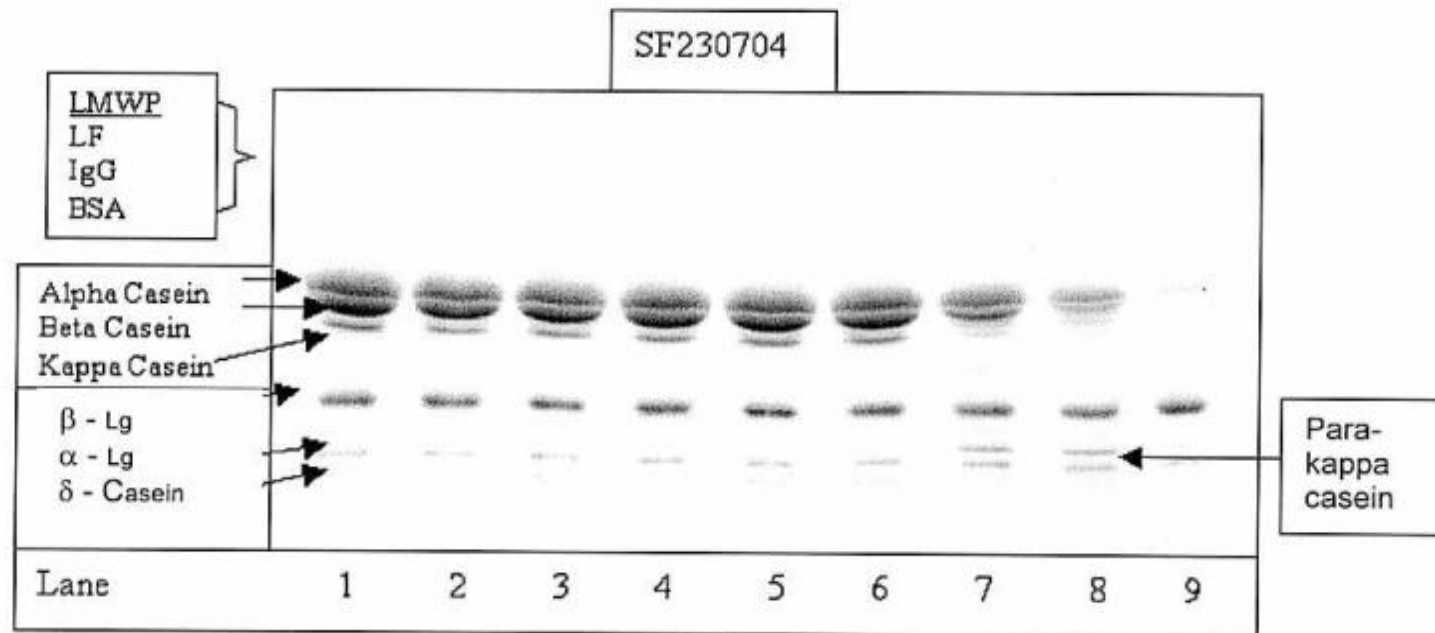


# Dairy related spoilage bacterial enzymes

- **Two major bacterial enzymes in milk:-**
  - **Protease (Bitterness)**
  - **Lipase (Rancidity)**
- **Activity in final product**



# Proteolysis in raw milk



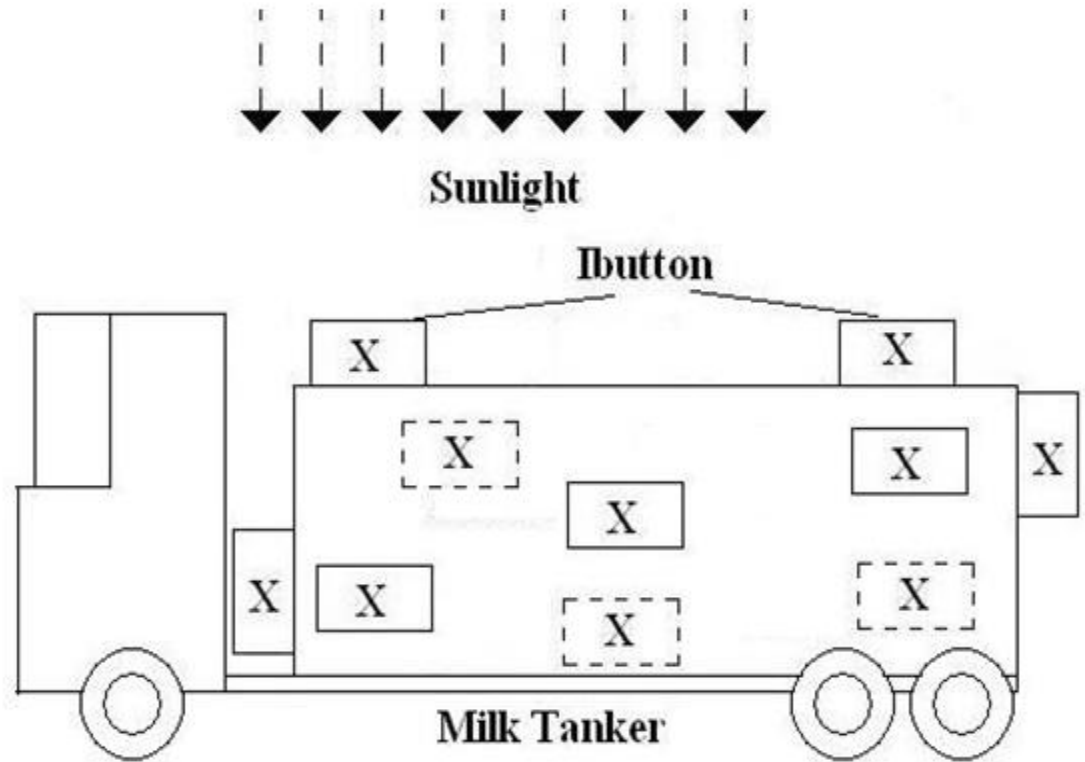
**Figure 10.** SDS PAGE analysis of proteins from raw milk stored at various temperatures for 48 h (1. Skim milk control; 2. Test control; 3. 1.9°C; 4. 4.9°C; 5. 7.1°C; 6. 10.2°C; 7. 15.4°C; 8. 19.2°C; 9. 25.0°C).

# General background

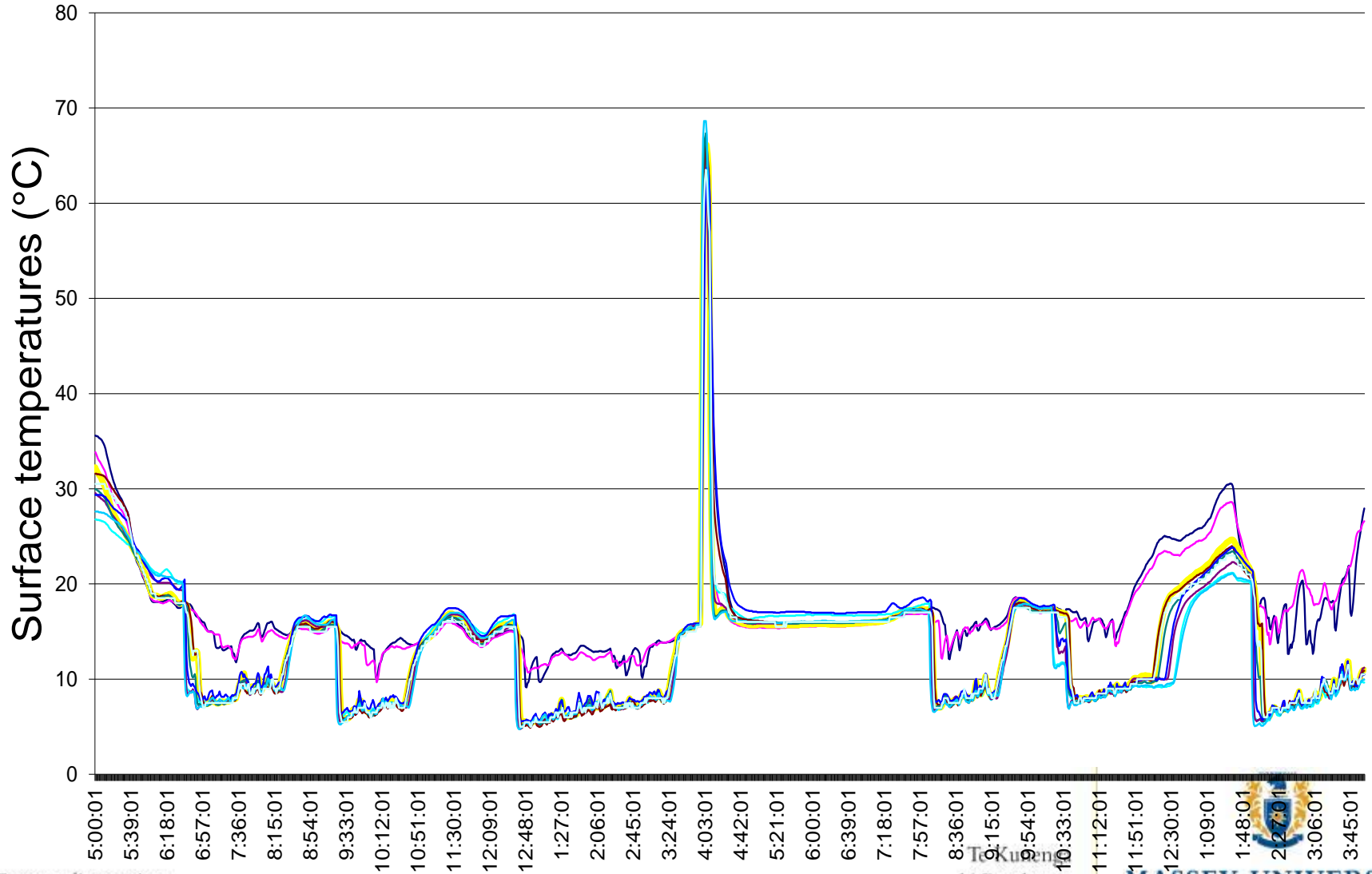
- **Biofilm**
  - Reservoirs of bacterial enzymes
  - Entrapment or secretion
  - Milk tanker surfaces suitable for biofilm growth



# Temperature Monitoring



# Temperature monitoring



# Enzymes produced by biofilm cells

- **Isolates from milk tanker surfaces**
  - 153 isolates
  - 52 biofilm and enzyme producers
  - 12 typed (16S DNA) for further study
- **Dairy bacteria can produce proteases and lipases within biofilms - in greater amounts than planktonic cells**



# Material and methods

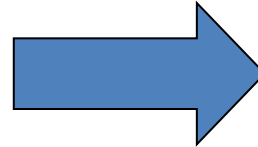
- **A cocktail of bacterial strains**
  - *P. fluorescens* C224, *S. liquefaciens* DC, *S. aureus* SF01
- **Three different level of contamination**
  - **Slightly, Moderately and Heavily**
- **Initial inoculum**
  - $10^3$ ,  $10^5$ ,  $10^7$  cfu/mL



# Materials and Methods



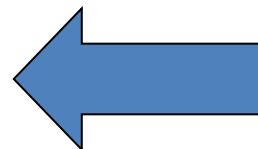
20° C for 24 h



20° C for 10 h



10, 20, 30, 40° C



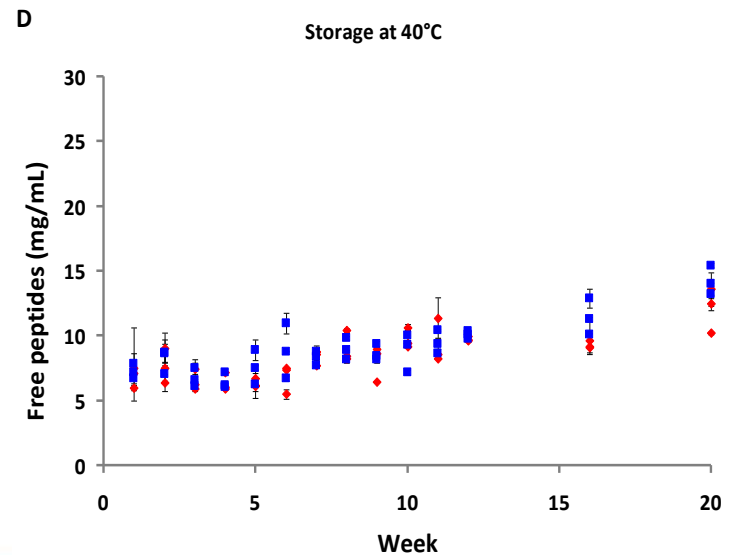
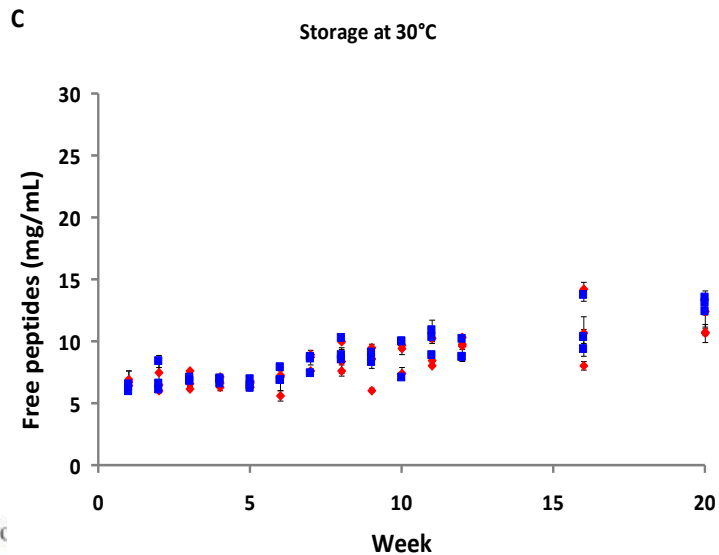
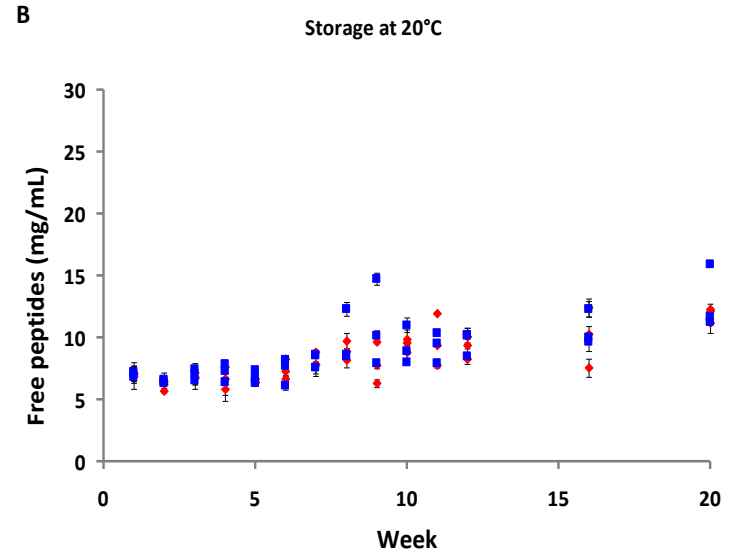
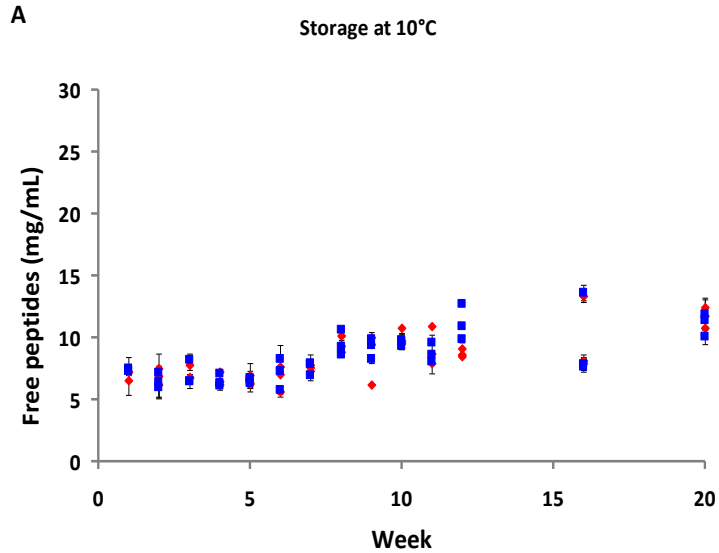
141° C for 5 s



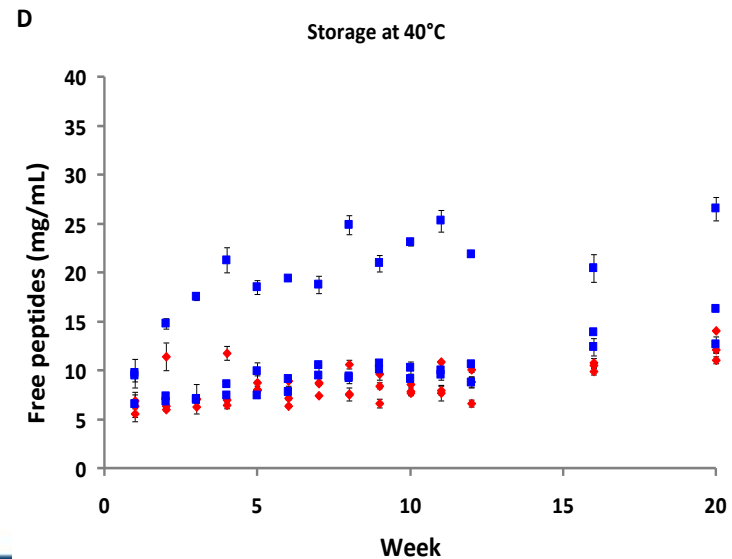
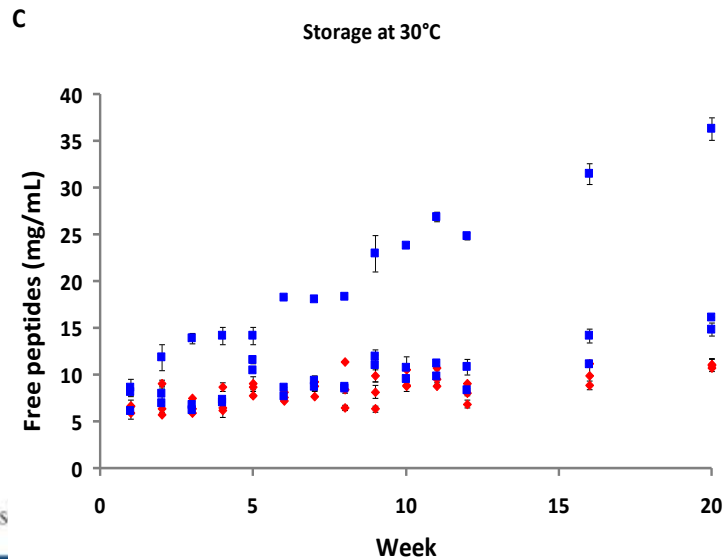
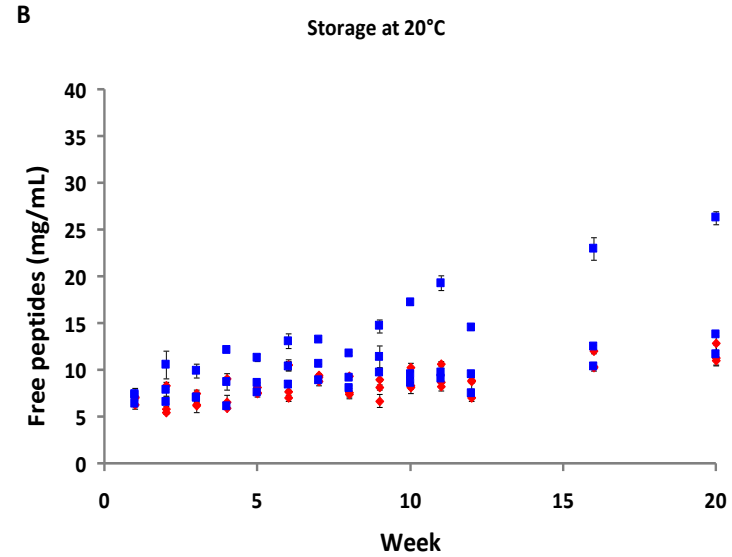
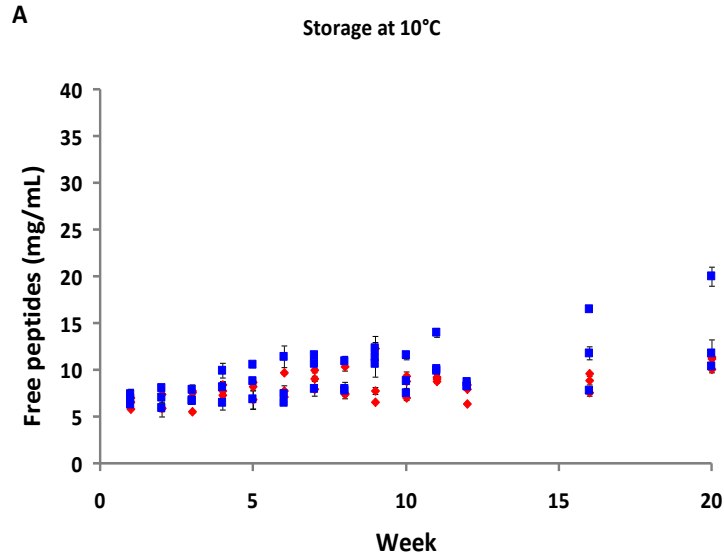


	Bacterial cell counts on the surfaces (log CFU cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Bacterial cell count in the milk (log CFU mL <sup>-1</sup> )
<i>Heavily contaminated trial*</i>		
Treated vessels	8.84	7.96
Control vessels	< 1	< 1
<i>Moderately contaminated trials</i>		
Treated vessels	7.41 ± 0.62 <sup>a</sup>	6.47 ± 0.04
Control vessels	< 1	< 1
<i>Slightly contaminated trials</i>		
Treated vessels	5.61 ± 0.21 <sup>b</sup>	6.13 ± 0.34
Control vessels	< 1	< 1

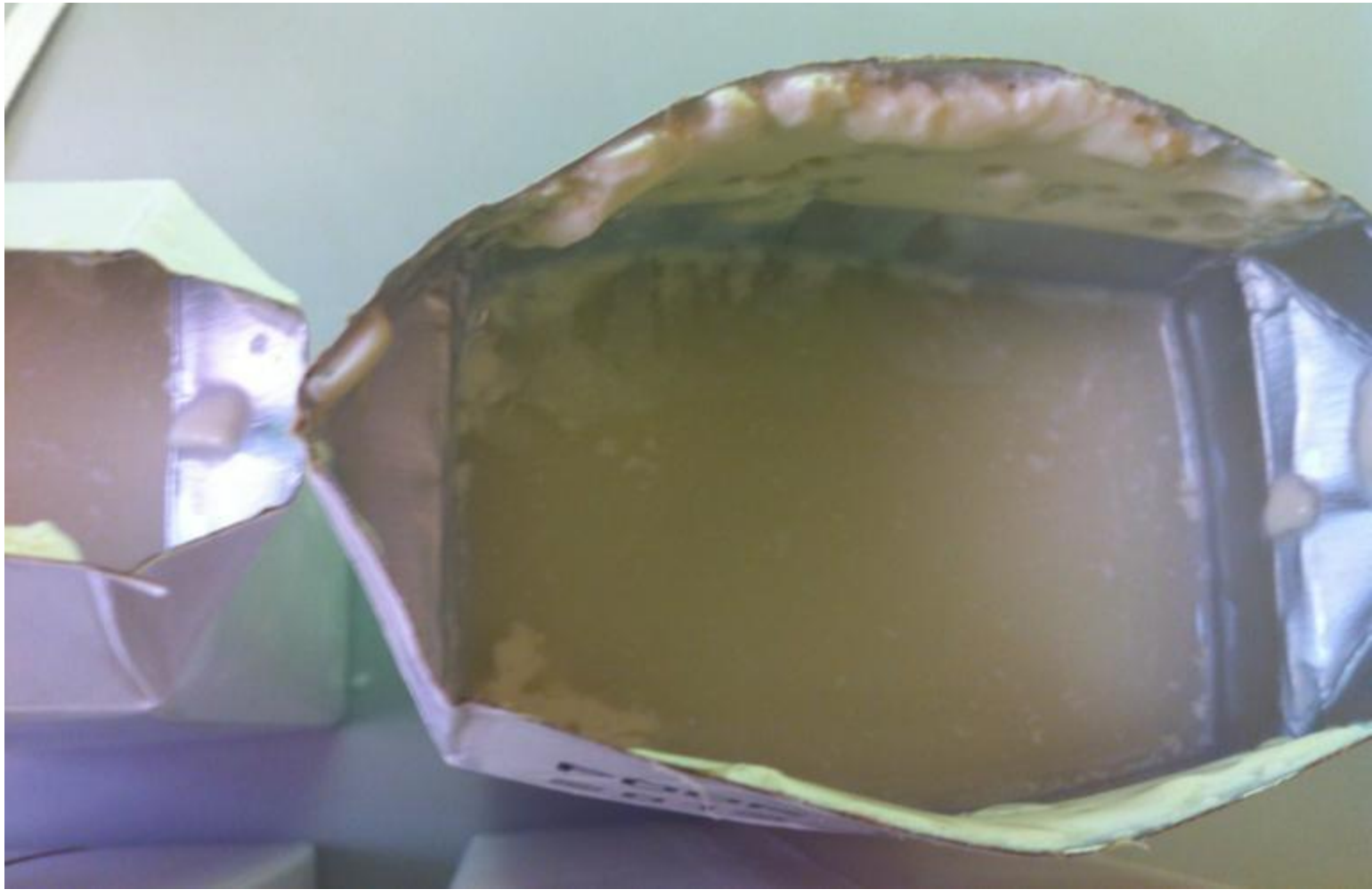
# Results – Slightly Contaminated



# Results – Moderately Contaminated



# UHT milk following enzymatic damage





# Conclusions

- **Raw milk quality affects product quality**
- **Microbial enzymes are the main concern with poor quality milk**
- **Maintaining the cold chain from farm to factory is the best control measure.**



# Reference

- Tetra Pak Handbook – The role of raw milk quality in UHT production

[http://www.tetrapak.com/about-tetra-pak/cases/how-milk-quality-affects-your-uht-dairy-products?disableMobile=1&utm\\_source=foodqualitynews&utm\\_medium=mailshotrawmilkquality&utm\\_campaign=processing](http://www.tetrapak.com/about-tetra-pak/cases/how-milk-quality-affects-your-uht-dairy-products?disableMobile=1&utm_source=foodqualitynews&utm_medium=mailshotrawmilkquality&utm_campaign=processing)



# Questions

