

ع ١٠٠٠ احمد

تم جمع عدد ١٠٠ عينة من أنواع الجبن المختلفة من من مدينة أسـيوط
وذلك لـمعد مجموعة الميكروبات الكروية المعوية وعزل ميكروب *Strept. Faecalis*

		وأسفرت النتائج على ما يلي :
الجبن الدمياطى يحتوى على	٣٠٩٤ x ١٠	ميكروب كروية معوية
الجبن القريش يحتوى على	١٢٦٠٣ x ١٠	ميكروب كروية معوية
الجبن الجاف (روسى) يحتوى على	٣٧٧١٦ x ١٠	ميكروب كروية معوية

وكانت النسبة المئوية لميكروب *Strept. Faecalis* فى الجبن الدمياطى
والجبن القريش والجبن الروسى هى ١٢٢٤ر١٢٢ على التوالى .

كذلك نوقشت اهمية هذا النوع من حيث اهميته كدليل على الانتاج الصحى
لمنتجات الالبان من حيث اهميته من الوجهة الصحية للمستهلك .

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ENTEROCOCCI IN CHEESE
(With 2 Tables)

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SUMMARY

For the enumeration of enterococci and isolation of *Strept. faecalis* from different types of cheese, 100 random samples Dammiatta (50), Kareish (25) and Hard (25), were used and collected from the local Assiut city markets.

The results obtained from this work revealed that the average Enterococci counts of cheese samples were 30.94×10 for Dammiatta, 126.04×10 for Kareish and 377.16×10 for Hard cheese.

Moreover, the incidence percentage of *strept. faecalis* isolated from Dammiatta, Kareish and Hard cheeses was found to be 22,14 and 12, respectively.

The value of Enterococci count as a sanitary index for dairy products was emphasized as well as the public health significance of *strept. faecalis* was also be discussed.

INTRODUCTION AND LITERATURE

Determination of enterococci as index of faecal contamination has proved useful in the analysis of food, these types of organisms have been also implicated as aetiological agents of food-borne illness.

The enterococci were first recorded from cases of food poisoning by LINDEN *et al.* (1926) who could isolate such organisms from cheese that was incriminated in 2 human outbreaks. SHERMAN and STARY (1931) reported the presence of *Strept. faecalis* in Swiss cheese after one day from processing .
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CARY et al. (1938) reported the appearance of food poisoning symptoms among volunteers given broth cultures of suspected enterococci. FOSTER et al. (1942) isolated enterococci from brick cheese. MATTICK and SHATTOCK (1943) found that an English hard cheese containing from 10^4 to 10^7 enterococci did not produce illness. WHITE and SHERMAN (1944) stated the presence of *Strept. faecalis* in milk is a definite proof of faecal contamination. TITSLER et al. (1946) found that enterococci organisms were among the bacterial types most frequently isolated from ripened pasteurized milk cheese. OSLER et al. (1948) reported that symptoms of food-poisoning were produced by 2 of 4 strains of *Strept. faecalis* that have been grown for 5 hours in milk. The incubation periods of enterococci food-poisoning were reported to be 2 hours by BUGHBINDER et al. (1948) and 26 hours by DACK et al. (1949) DACK (1956) described the illness attributed to the enterococci as being milder than that caused by *Staphylococci* intoxication. The symptoms included nausea, colicky pain, diarrhoea and in some cases vomiting. FOSTER et al. (1958) found enterococci in cheddar cheese. They reported that these organisms are overgrown in raw milk cheese and as they survive ordinary pasteurization, they may reach considerable numbers and be detected in cheese made from pasteurized milk. In addition, they could isolated *Strept. faecalis* in great numbers. SHATTOCK (1962) remarked that in cases of enterococcal food-poisoning with short incubation periods vomiting was the dominant symptom, while cases with longer incubation period, the dominant symptom was diarrhoea. DEIBEL and SILLIKER (1963) reported that no instance were any of enterococcal strains fed to volunteers conducive to cause food poisoning symptoms. SLANETZ et al. (1963) stated that enterococci have been used as indices of microbiological quality

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and sanitary condition of many different foods. SARASWAT et al. (1965) emphasized the value of enterococcus count as a sanitary index for dairy products. RIEMANN (1969) stated that determination of enterococci as an index of faecal contamination has proved useful in the analysis of foods. FACKLAM et al. (1970) found that the most accurate presumptive test for recognizing enterococci was with bile-esculin medium. EFTHYMIU and JOSEPH (1974) found that the enterococci count in cheddar cheese was 50×10^3 , while in other types of cheese the counts varied from 44×10^5 to 19×10^7 . EFTHYMIU et al. (1974) enumerated the enterococci in different types of cheese, they found that the counts ranged from 13×10^1 to 13×10^4 in cheddar cheese and from 30×10^1 to 73×10^7 in other types of cheese.

The main object of the present investigation is to assess the incidence and sanitary significance of enterococci in cheese, marketed in Assiut City.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Collection of Samples:

One hundred random samples of different types of cheese, (Dammiatta, 50; Kareish, 25 and Hard cheese 25), were used in this investigation for isolation and enumeration, of existing enterococci. Incidence of *Strept. faecalis* was determined.

All cheese samples were collected from Assiut City markets. The samples were transferred directly and under sanitary precautions to the laboratory. Each sample was prepared by thorough mashing of soft cheese and cutting of hard cheese.

Enumeration of Enterococci:

In a sterile mortar, 11 g of the prepared cheese samples were triturated with 99 ml. sterile normal saline solution (40°C) containing 2% sodium citrate, to make a dilution 1:10 (A.P.H.A., 1972). Sterile sand was used for the trituration of hard cheese samples. Ten-folds serial dilutions were prepared.

After thorough mixing, one ml. of each dilution was carefully mixed with about 10 ml. of melted and cooled (45°C) Pfiizr Selective Enterococcus medium (PSE) (GELDRICH, 1975).

After solidification, inoculated plates were incubated 36°C for 48 hours. The brownish black colonies that appeared after incubation were counted according A.P.H.A. (1972).

Isolation of Strept. Faecalis:

Strept. faecalis broth tubes (BAILY and SCOTT, 1974) were inoculated with cheese samples and incubated at 37°C for 24 hours, before being streaked on both blood and Mcconkey agar plates and incubated for 24 hours at 37°C.

Pure cultures from suspected colonies were prepared for further identification according to BAILY and SCOTT (1974).

From the results obtained, it is evident that the average enterococci counts in different cheese samples examined were 30.94×10 for Damiatta, 126.04×10^3 for Kareish and 377.16×10^3 for Hard cheese (Table 1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained are recorded in Table 1 and 2.

As the enterococci organisms grow well in raw milk and can survive ordinary pasteurization process, they were recovered from different types of cheese prepared from raw or pasteurized milk. This finding is in agreement with what has been reported by FOSTER et al. (1942), MATTICK and SHATTOCK (1943), TITSLER et al. (1946), FOSTER (1958), EFTHYMIU and Assiut Vet. Med. J. Vol. 4 No. 8, 1977.

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JOSEPH (1974) and EFTHYMIU et al. (1974).

The incidence percentage of *Strept. faecalis* isolated from Damiatta, Kareish and Hard cheese samples was found to be 22, 14 and 12 respectively.

The presence of enterococci is considered to have the same significance as Coliforms. The resistance of enterococci to heat, their ability to grow at low temperatures (10°C) as well as their comparatively resistance to salt, concentrations makes them more suitable than Coliforms as indicative of faecal contamination in food products (SLANETZ et al., 1963 and REIMANN, 1969).

Moreover, presence of enterococci in large numbers may at times constitutes a public health hazard (DACK, 1956; SHATTOCK, 1962 and DEIBEL and SILLIKER, 1963).

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Table 1
Average counts of enterococci in different cheese samples

Type of cheese	No. of samples	Incidence of	Count / gm cheese		
			Min.	Max.	Average
isolation					
Dammiatta	50	70	0	268X10	30.94X10
Kareish	25	100	30X10 ²	288X10 ³	126.04X10 ³
Hard	25	100	33X10 ³	111X10 ⁴	377.16X10 ³

Table 2
Incidence of *Strept. faecalis* in cheese samples

Type of cheese	No. of samples	No. of isolates	Incidence %
Damiatta	50	22	44
Kareish	25	14	56
Hard	25	12	48