

How to use the Colilert and Colisure Presence/Absence Test

Testing Procedures

Note: 30 hours are allowed between sampling and testing

Colilert Presence / Absence (P/A)

(WP020 & WP200)

Add reagent to sample.

Incubate at 35°C. for 24 hours.

Read results: **clear** is negative for total coliforms and *E. coli*. **Yellow** is positive for total coliforms. **Fluorescent** is positive for *E. coli*. Results are definitive at 24-28 hours. In addition, positives for both total coliforms and *E. coli* observed before 24 hours and negatives observed after 28 hours are also valid.

Colilert-18 Presence / Absence (P/A)

(WP020-18 & WP200-18)

Add reagent to water. Cap vessel and shake. If sample is not already at 33-38°C, then place vessel in a 35°C water bath for 20 minutes or, alternatively, a 44.5°C water bath for 7-10 minutes. Incubate at 35±0.5°C for the remainder of the 18 hours.

Read results: **clear** is negative for total coliforms and *E. coli*. **yellow** is positive for total coliforms. **Fluorescent** is positive for *E. coli*. Tests may be incubated up to but not longer than 22 hours to allow color and/or fluorescent to intensify. Positives for both total coliforms and *E. coli* observed before 18 hours and negatives observed after 22 hours are also valid.

Colisure Presence / Absence (P/A)

(WCLS20 & WCLS200)

Add reagent to sample.

Incubate at 35±C for 24 hours.

Read results: **Yellow** is negative for total coliforms and *E. coli*. **Magenta** is positive for total coliforms total coliforms. **Magenta/fluorescent** is positive for *E. coli*. Results are definitive at 24 hours with a read window that lasts up to 48 hours.



Colilert® Test Reactions



Clear is negative for total coliforms and *E. coli*.



Yellow is positive for total coliforms.



Fluorescent is positive for *E. coli*.

Colisure® Test Reactions



Yellow is negative for total coliforms and *E. coli*.



Magenta is positive for total coliforms.



Magenta/Fluorescent is positive for *E. coli*.

Samples of Colilert or Colisure Reagent and Vessel are available upon request.