

Table 2 Annual frequency of acceptable and unacceptable levels of contamination of dairy products in routine inspections in Ramallah and Al-Bireh district, Palestine

Organism	2001		2002		2003		2004	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total aerobic count								
Acceptable	137	91.3	112	82.4	56	60.2	29	52.7
Unacceptable	13	8.7	24	17.6	37	39.8	26	47.3
Total coliforms								
Acceptable	76	73.1	200	84.7	126	74.1	87	79.8
Unacceptable	28	26.9	36	15.3	44	25.9	22	20.2
Faecal coliforms								
Acceptable	110	81.5	219	92.8	134	78.8	88	80.7
Unacceptable	25	18.5	17	7.2	36	21.2	21	19.3
Staphylococcus aureus								
Acceptable	157	100.0	235	99.6	166	96.5	109	100.0
Unacceptable	–	–	1	0.4	6	3.5	–	–
Salmonella spp.								
Positive	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Negative	155	100.0	235	100.0	170	100.0	109	100.0
Yeasts								
Acceptable	89	84.8	215	93.5	151	88.8	96	88.1
Unacceptable	16	15.2	15	6.5	19	11.2	13	11.9
Moulds								
Acceptable	97	93.3	222	99.1	166	97.6	108	99.1
Unacceptable	7	6.7	2	0.9	4	2.4	1	0.9
Escherichia coli								
Acceptable	84	85.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unacceptable	14	14.3	–	–	–	–	–	–

– = no samples were tested.