













Microbial Quality: Faecal Coliforms

| FAECAL COLIFORM RANGE (Counts/100ml) | DRINKING | | FOOD PREPARATION | BATHING | LAUNDRY |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| | (Health)  | (Aesthetics)  |  |  |  |
| 0 | No detectable chance of infection | No effects | No effects | No effects | No effects |
| 0-1 | Insignificant chance of infections | No effects | Insignificant chance of infections | Insignificant effects | Insignificant effects |
| 1-10 | Clinical infections unlikely in healthy adults, but may occur in some sensitive groups | No effects | Clinical infections unlikely in healthy adults, but may occur in some sensitive groups | Insignificant effects | Insignificant effects |
| 10-100 | Clinical infections common, even with once-off consumption | No effects | Clinical infections common, even with once-off consumption | Slight risk | Slight risk |
| >100 | Serious health effects common in all users | No effects | Serious health effects common in all users | Possibility of infection | Possibility of infection |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|-------------------|
|  | Blue - Ideal |  | Green - Good |  | Yellow - Marginal |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|-------------------|

| | | | |
|---|------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Red - Poor |  | Purple – Completely unacceptable* |
|---|------------|---|-----------------------------------|

*Not to be used without treatment

DWAF (1998). Quality of domestic water supplies. Volume 1: Assessment Guide. WRC No. TT 101/98, p. 53.