Louisiana Office of Public Health Laboratories		
Test Name	Shellfish Growing Waters	
PHL Location	Central Laboratory	
CPT Code	N/A	
Synonyms	N/A	
Brief Description of Test	Shellfish growing water samples are analyzed using the A1-M method. Salinity of the water samples is also analyzed.	
Possible Results	Fecal coliform MPN/100 milliliters	
Reference Range	N/A	
Specimen Type	Water sample	
Specimen Container(s):	<ul> <li>Clean, sterile, disposable bottle</li> <li>Only containers QC'd by the laboratory are suitable for use. DO NOT purchase privately.</li> </ul>	
Minimum volume accepted:	75 milliliters	
Collection Instructions	Shellfish growing water samples are collected in clean, sterile, disposable bottles. Samples must be immediately cooled by placing on ice in an insulated container.	
Storage and Transport Instructions	Store and transport in clean insulated container. Samples should be held at or below 10°C during transport. However, the lab may accept samples above 10°C for analysis provided the temperature blanks show no increase in temperature from time of collection.	
Causes for Rejection	<ol> <li>Sample submitted more than 30 hours after collection (oyster waters)</li> <li>Sample submitted frozen</li> <li>Sample &gt;10°C upon receipt</li> <li>No sample ID</li> <li>Unsatisfactory sample container</li> <li>Unacceptable sample volume</li> <li>Leaking container</li> <li>Sample submerged under ice slush/water</li> </ol>	
Limitations of the Procedure	Improper mixing of sample will allow for underestimating of the bacteria density of the sample.	
Interfering Substances	N/A	

References	<ol> <li>National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish: 2017 Revision.</li> <li>Quality Assurance Manual for the Laboratory Analysis of Shellfish and Shell Growing Water LA DHH-OPH Laboratories. DOLQAMSFM-01</li> </ol>
Additional Information	A completed Lab 46 form must accompany each sample. The name of the collector, date and time of collection and location of where sample was taken must be noted.
Release Date	06/12/2019
Warning: If you have printed a copy of this information please be advised that the Louisiana Office of Public Health Laboratories website and methods are updated on a regular basis. Please check the on-line version of this document to ensure you are relying on the most recent release.	

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