

## Market fish hygiene in Kenya

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### Abstract:

*Vibrio parahaemolyticus* was isolated from 53 out of 584 samples (9.1%) of market fish. All strains were Kanagawa negative and were distributed as follows: sea fish 5 out of 370 samples (1.4%), shellfish 48 out of 214 samples (22.4%). Other fish spoilage microflora recovered were: *Alcaligenes faecalis*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Aeromonas* spp. and *Vibrio alginolyticus*. Total aerobic counts and coliform counts per gram for the lake fish ranged from  $2.6 \times 10^2$  to  $6.6 \times 10^7$  and 10 to  $1.0 \times 10^2$ , respectively. Those from marine fish ranged from  $1.0 \times 10^5$  to  $8.8 \times 10^5$  and  $2.0 \times 10^3$  to  $1.6 \times 10^4$ , respectively. Counts for marine fish gills alone ranged from  $1.4 \times 10^5$  to  $3.4 \times 10^8$  and  $7.2 \times 10^2$  to  $1.4 \times 10^7$ , respectively. No hightemperature (44°) coliforms were recovered from either lake or marine samples