

Enumeration of *Total Viable Counts* in Cocoa Paste and Cocoa Powder

1 **Media:**

- BiMedia 001B (General Impedance Medium)

2 **Sample Preparation:**

Homogenise 10 g sample with 90 ml pre-warmed (45°C) Buffered Peptone Water or Ringer's Solution.

3 **BacTrac-Settings:**

Temperature:	37°C
Duration:	24 hours
Interval time:	10 min
Delay time:	1 hour
Evaluation type:	M
Scale:	M-value: -5 to 30%
	E-value: (-5 to 60%)
Threshold(s):	M-value: 4%
	E-value: (10%)

Inoculate the measuring cell (9 ml medium) with 1 ml homogenised sample.

4 **Calibration:**

A calibration is available on request for members of the European User Club.

5 **Exceptional cases:**

Incubate dried and powdered samples in the media for 30-60 minutes at room temperature before stirring to allow regeneration of stressed or sublethal damaged cells.