

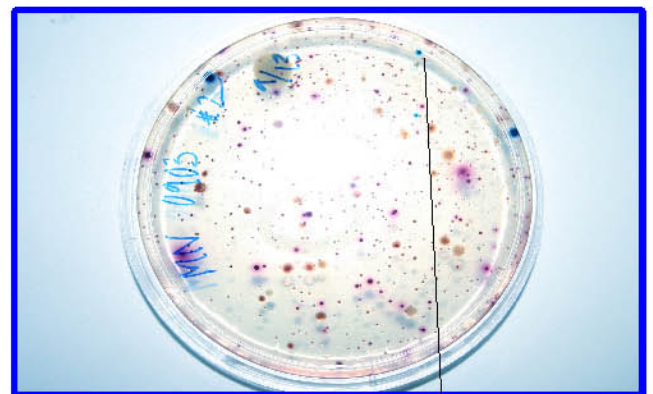
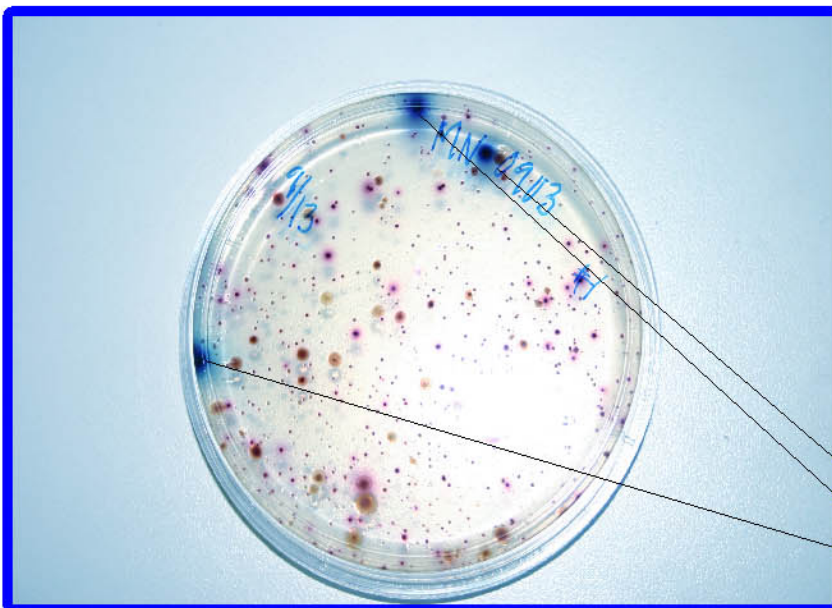
## Plating Samples:

1. Wipe down counter with antibacterial wipes or spray.
2. Transfer a measured volume of sample water (**Usually 1, 3 or 5 ml from sterilized pipettes**) into each of the three bottles of media. Gently swirl and invert the bottle to distribute the Easygel media and then pour the mixture into the bottom half of a pretreated Petri dish. Being careful not to splash over the side or onto the lid, gently swirl the dish until the mixture is evenly distributed across the bottom. Place Petri dish right side up on a level surface out of direct sunlight.
3. After gel has solidified, approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour, turn the Petri dish upside down to prevent condensation and place in the incubator at 35°C for 24 hours.



## Reading the Petri dishes:

1. After the incubation period, inspect the dish. Count the purple blue-violet colonies in the dish and record the results in terms of E. coli colony forming units (cfu) per 100 ml of water. Take the amount of sample water used and divide it into 100 since you want to report your sample per 100 ml of water. For example you used 5 ml sample so  $100/5=20$ . If you counted 6 E. coli colonies then you multiply  $6 \times 20 = 120$  to get your 120 cfu per 100 ml of water. Do not count pin-point colonies < 1 mm in size, disregard any light blues, teal, white, or pink colonies, as these indicate



other types

Teal colored colonies are not E. coli and therefore not counted.

Developed E. coli bacteria colonies. These would be recorded on your sheet.