

**ISOLATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF SOME PATHOGENS
IN SOME POULTRY ENTERPRISES RUNNING
IN PROVINCE OF ADANA, TURKEY**

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Chicken meat, which has an important place among foods of animal origin, is a medium for introducing foodborne infections and toxins into the human body because of its composition and environmental conditions. In this study, some pathogens found in scalding tank water and cleaning water containing whole chicken carcasses and body parts (thigh, breast, wing, liver) that were obtained from poultry enterprises operating in the province of Adana, Turkey were investigated. Samples (n = 42) were analyzed aerobic colony count (ACC), coliform (*E. coli*), *Salmonella* spp., and *Listeria* spp. We used the culture method for enumerating the ACC, the most probable number (MPN) technique for the total coliform and *E. coli* and ISO 6579 and FDA to detect the prevalence of *Salmonella* spp. and *Listeria* spp., respectively. In this research, even though the contamination levels of all of the samples showed differences according to the enterprises, levels were detected as 4×10^3 - 85×10^{20} and $7.4 \rightarrow 1100$ MPN/g for ACC and total coliform bacteria and *E. coli* count, respectively. The *E. coli* present was observed to be *E. coli* Type I and *E. coli* O₁₅₇H₇. We found *Salmonella* spp. in three of the samples studied which were taken from one enterprise. *Listeria* spp. isolated from 27 samples studied which were taken from three enterprises. *Listeria* spp. were categorized as the following: seven strains of *L. monocytogenes*, eight strains of *L. innocua*, eight strains of *L. welshimeri*, two strains of *L. seeligeri*, and two strains of *L. ivanovii*. Overall, this study has found that production has not yet reached the desired level of hygienic quality for the enterprises running in province of the Cukurova region which were investigated.

Keywords: pathogens, poultry enterprises, scalding tank water, cleaning water, chicken meat

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