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This report contains your organization's EMPAT Culture Proficiency Analytical Testing results for **EMPAT Culture Round 66**. It is the participant's responsibility to thoroughly review the information in this final report and to immediately contact the AIHA Proficiency Analytical Testing Programs, in writing, if any errors are found.

### EMPAT Culture Results

The final report is comprised of two sections relating to EMPAT Culture Round 66. The first section contains your organization's results listed per analyte, per sample. The second section contains your current performance and performance from the two previous rounds, respectively (where applicable). Summary results for all participants for EMPAT Culture Round 66 are located in a separate report.

#### Testing Results for EMPAT Culture Round 66

This part of the report contains your organization's results listed per analyte, per sample.

Sample	#	Your Response	Expected Response	Also Accepted As	Genus Correct	Species Correct	Score
Fungi	1	Acremonium	Gliomastix murorum	Acremonium murorum	Yes 9	NA 0	9
	2	Wallemia	Wallemia mellicola		Yes 9	NA 0	9
	3	Asteromyces	Asteromyces cruciatus		Yes 9	NA 0	9
Analyte Round Performance							90.00%

Scoring Deviations: See "Also Accepted As" above.

#### Overall Performance Summary Concluding with EMPAT Culture Round 66

The following table contains your organization's current and two previous test rounds performance respectively (where applicable). For more information in regard to the determination of proficiency, please visit: [www.aihapat.org](http://www.aihapat.org).

Sample	Round	Round Score	Round Performance	Proficiency Status - Three Round Score
Fungi	64	90.00%	PASS	
	65	90.00%	PASS	
	66	90.00%	PASS	PROFICIENT

#### Interpretation Notes:

Pass: Round Score greater than or equal to 85 percent Fail: Round Score less than 85 percent

#### Technical Comment:

**Bacteria Sample 1:** *Bacillus thuringiensis* and *Bacillus cereus* are two species very similar in biochemical reactions and appearance making their identification difficult to achieve. *Bacillus thuringiensis* produces cuboid or diamond-shaped parasporal crystals in a 48-hour culture on nutrient or sporulation agar, while *Bacillus cereus* does not. The crystals are observed with phase contrast microscopy or staining with malachite green.

#### References:

<http://www.sfam.org.uk/download.cfm?docid=A8649AF0-52D3-4098-A5FF68A2D1A0978B>  
<https://www.fda.gov/food/foodscienceresearch/laboratorymethods/ucm070875.htm>

Additional information on the following items are available in the Environmental Microbiology Scheme Plan:  
 Procedures used to establish criteria for evaluation.

Scoring Acceptance Criteria: Samples go through scoring acceptance criteria checks that require 80% agreement between the reference laboratories and a minimum of 50% sample growth among the population. Any samples that fail these criteria will not be scored. Samples that pass but have issues flagged by the responses of participant laboratories in the round will be researched and final scoring decisions will be made by the AIHA PAT Board.

Scoring is based on the following point system: The sample is correctly identified at the species level and genus identification is correct (+10 points). The sample is correctly identified at the genus level and species is not attempted (+9 points). The sample is correctly identified at the genus level and species identification is incorrect (+8 points). Incorrect identification at genus level receives 0 points. Blanks are not scored.

Participants that incorrectly identify a sample that fails to pass acceptance criteria will receive full credit of 10 points, if both genus and species were attempted, or 9 points if only genus was attempted. Each analyte has the possibility of achieving a maximum score of 30 points (10 points per sample). A passing score for a round is achieved with a score of greater than or equal to 26 points or eighty-five (85) percent.

Participants shall not describe their proficiency status in a manner that implies accreditation, certification or variations thereof. PAT results pertain only to the participant organization at the location listed on this results report. AIHA PAT Programs makes every effort to ensure that individual participant results are kept confidential and are not made public. Round results are only released to the participant and those entities requiring this information for accreditation, regulatory and contract purposes. New participants are made aware of the arrangement in advance of participation and consent is sought prior to the release of records for participants. PAT reports may not be reproduced or distributed unless copied in its entirety.

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