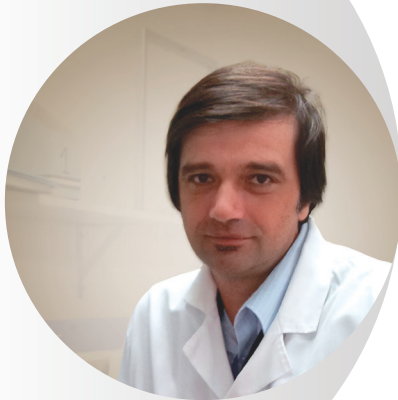




Birling Avian Laboratories

TESTIMONIAL BY DR ANTHONY PAVIC,

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CONTEXT

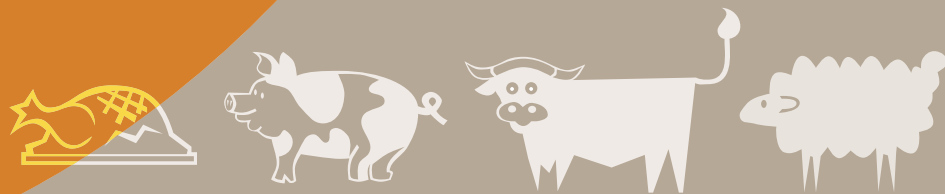
Located on the outskirts of Sydney, Birling Avian Laboratories is owned and operated by Baiada Poultry Pty Ltd, the leading provider of premium poultry products throughout Australia. The laboratory provides scientific services for Baiada Poultry and other smaller external clients across a range of scientific disciplines, including quality assurance, microbiology, serology, diagnostic, molecular biology and histopathology.

To meet high quality standards in compliance with ISO9001:2008, samples are analysed through-chain (whole of process), from egg to finished poultry product (raw and further processed).

OBJECTIVES & ACTION

Seeking innovation and a faster, less labour intensive enumeration method to replace standard colony counting (pour and spread plate) techniques for spoilage and faecal indicators, the TEMPO was acquired, following a private demonstration of the platform at the Australian Society of Microbiology Annual Meeting in 2005.

The bioMérieux team installed and trained laboratory staff on the TEMPO almost immediately. In 2006, the parameters of Total Viable Count (TVC), total coliforms (TC) and *E. coli* (EC) were validated in-house and accredited for routine application of these assays. Since then, TEMPO STA (*Staphylococcus aureus*) and EB (*Enterobacteriaceae*) enumeration has been implemented. All raw and further processed (cooked) products, environmental hygiene swabs, and farm waters are analysed using the TEMPO system.



With the acquisition of Bartter-Steggles in late-2010 and the associated increase in testing demands, the TEMPO has allowed the laboratory to analyse large volumes of samples without affecting the quality of results, in a cost-effective manner. The addition of two new filler stations and networking of the TEMPO software with LIMs for automatic data entry has increased overall laboratory efficiency.

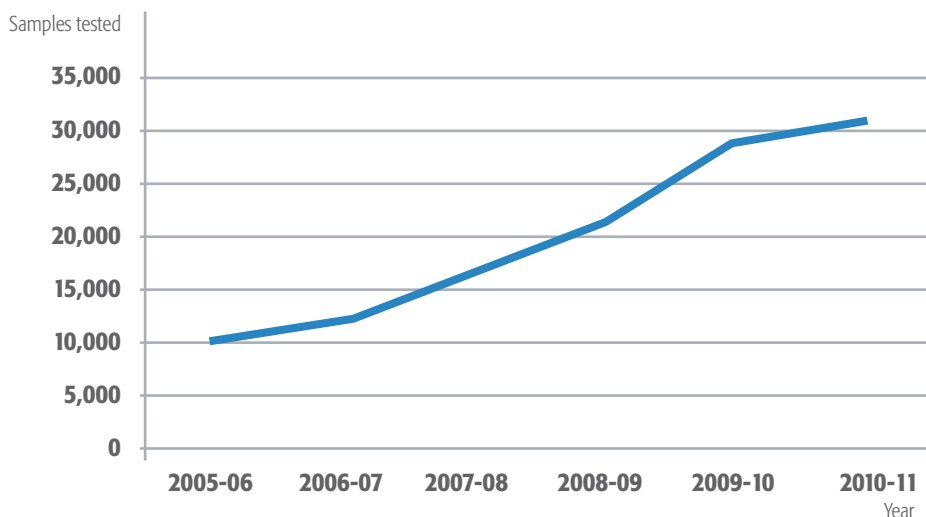
BENEFITS / KEY RESULTS

The key benefits of using the TEMPO at Birling Avian Laboratories include savings in labour in media preparation, sample set-up and plate reading. The reduction in labour has assisted in the re-deployment of staff to other value-added areas of the laboratory and alleviated workload on weekend shifts.

The automated and simple dilution process allows for increased standardisation and accuracy, while incubator space, storage area, bench space and contaminated waste disposal have been optimised. Improved workflow and turn-around times (particularly for TVC at 48 h incubation) has been a result of the implementation of TEMPO.

The laboratory performs, on average, 350 tests per day on the TEMPO alone (excludes *Salmonella*, *L. monocytogenes*, and *Campylobacter*), which simply would not be possible by manual methods and without the TEMPO. Overall testing outputs have tripled over the last six years, largely due to the installation of TEMPO. The bioMérieux team have continued to support the laboratory by streamlining other testing parameters.

Testing Output of Birling QA Laboratory



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