ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a method for the quantitative evaluation of microorganisms or nucleic acid sequences, in particular, in an environmental, medical, veterinary, agricultural and biotechnological sample. Preferably, the invention relates to a method for quantitative detection of a microorganism in a sample, comprising the determination of following levels of binding:

(a) the labelled probe with the target sequence under high stringency conditions,

(b) the labelled probe with the target sequence under low stringency conditions,

(c) the labelled probe with the target sequence under high stringency conditions and in the presence of non-labelled oligonucleotide probe,

(d) the labelled non-sense oligonucleotide probe that cannot specifically bind to the target sequence under high stringency conditions,

(e) the level of specific binding of the labelled oligonucleotide probe as the difference between the levels of binding determined in steps (a) and (b), or (a) and (c), or (a) and (d).