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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR PREDICTING COLONY FORMING UNIT IN ALIMENTARY SUBSTANCES

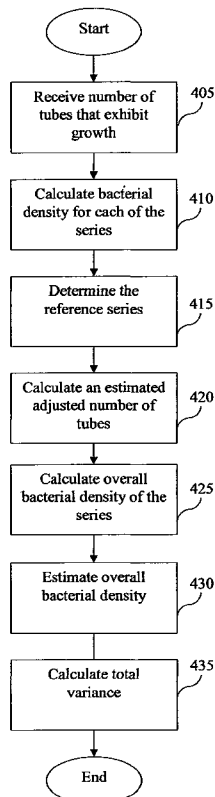


Figure 4

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to a method and system that predicts the quality of food at an earlier stage of food distribution. The system predicts a quality of food in the following manner. The system receives a number of tubes in each of a plurality of series that exhibit bacterial growth at a first incubation time and calculates a bacterial density of each of the plurality of series from the number of tubes exhibiting bacterial growth in each of the plurality of series at the first incubation time. The system then determines one of the plurality of series having a highest bacterial density as a reference series. An estimated adjusted number of tubes that exhibit growth at a second incubation time is calculated using the reference series. The system then calculates an overall bacterial density of the plurality of series using the estimated adjusted number of tubes for each of the plurality of series and subsequently determines an estimated overall bacterial density at the second incubation time wherein the second incubation time is greater than the first incubation time.



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