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(54) Title: DETECTION AND ENUMERATION OF MICROORGANISMS

(57) Abstract: A method for detecting and enumerating viable microorganisms in a sample suspected of containing said microorganisms: (1) contacting said microorganisms of said sample with repair compounds and a growth medium, and (2) incubating the product of step (1), and (3) detecting and enumerating said microorganisms, in which the microorganisms are of the species *Legionella pneumophila*, and in which the repair compounds comprise: (a) serine; (b) threonine; (c) a compound containing calcium ions at a dose of  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-2}$  mM; (d) a compound containing magnesium ions at a dose of  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-2}$  mM; (e) a compound containing potassium ions; (f) glutamic acid or a salt thereof; and (g) pyruvic acid or a salt thereof. The invention also discloses a kit for detecting and enumerating viable microorganisms of the species *Legionella pneumophila* in a sample suspected of containing said microorganisms.



WO 2011/151793 A1