CLAIMS

Claim 1. A method of quantifying diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria in a test sample, comprising:

a step of quantifying the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria, using, as an index, an amount of diaminopimelic acid derived from the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria in the test sample,

wherein the test sample contains diaminopimelic acid-free bacteria, and

the test sample does not contain diaminopimelic acid in a component other than the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria.

~~Claim 2. The method according to claim 1,~~

~~wherein the test sample contains diaminopimelic acid-free bacteria.~~

Claim ~~3~~2. The method according to claim 1~~ or 2~~,

wherein the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria are dead bacteria.

Claim ~~4~~3. The method according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 3~~or 2,

wherein the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria include at least one type of lactic acid bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus pentosus*, *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *Lactobacillus paraplantarum*, *Lactobacillus fabifermentans*, *Lactobacillus vaccinostercus*, *Lactobacillus hokkaidonensis*, *Lactobacillus oligofermentans*, *Lactobacillus suebicus*, *Lactobacillus mali*, and *Lactobacillus divergens*.

Claim ~~5~~4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to ~~4~~3,

wherein the diaminopimelic acid-containing bacteria are of *Lactobacillus pentosus*.