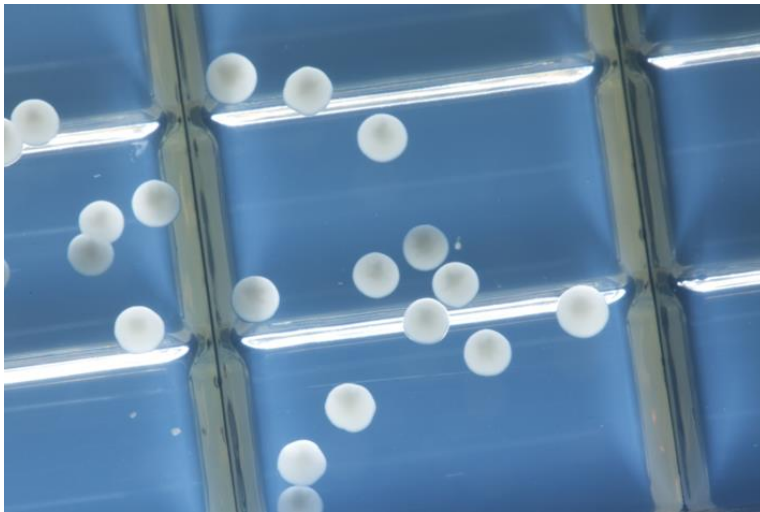


## Analysis - Agar Media Colony Counting - FAQ



### **FAQ: Are all colonies counted on an agar strip?**

Yes.

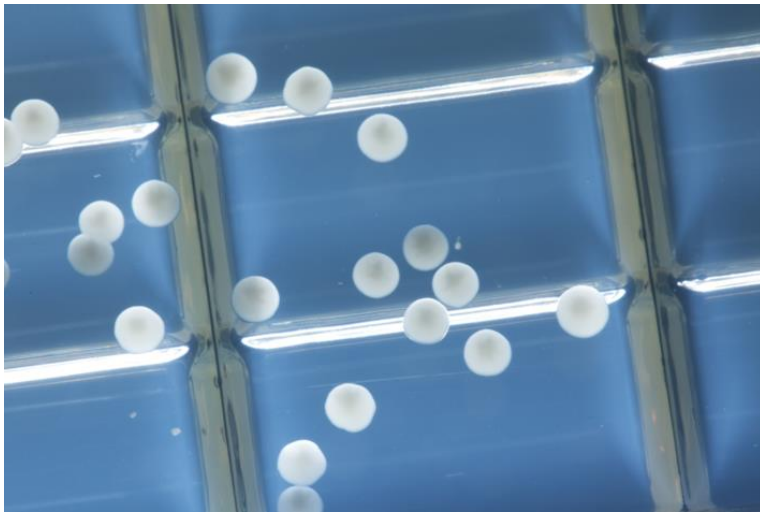
- Colonies counted on the agar strip refer to the volume of the air sample and not to the size of the surface. Typically, the counted colonies are related to a 1000 L sampling volume, but other volumes may be sampled.

# Analysis - Agar Media Colony Counting

- The entire strip (all squares) is analysed for colonies
  - Every square is counted with identical strategies
  - Recommendation (adapted from strategies with hemacytometers):
    - (1) Count colonies on every square plus the gaps surrounding the square on two sides (red dotted line as examples) → **when summarizing all counted squares, all gaps are analyzed but double-counting is avoided**
    - (2) Count the gaps missing in the outer edges of the agar strip (blue dotted line in this example)



# Analysis - Agar Media Colony Counting - FAQ



Picture: Growth promotion test, *E.coli*

**FAQ: Do microbes growing within the gaps between agar squares have to be counted?**

Yes.

- Dependent on the number of microbes care must be taken to avoid double counting of organisms or miss colonies that reside in the gaps of the segments.
- We recommend to apply the rules of a standard grid analysis. For example, see next slide: