

## **Annex B. Parameters of Sampling Plan Used to Set Microbiological Standards**

SFA has adopted a three-class sampling plan for end-product testing, which comprises the following parameters:

- n: The number of sample units comprising the sample
- c: The number of sample units where the bacterial count may be between “m” and “M”
- m: The threshold value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered satisfactory if:
  - The number of bacteria in all sample units does not exceed this value, or
  - The number of bacteria in less than or equal to “c” sample units exceeds this value but does not exceed “M”
- M: The maximum value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in any sample unit exceeds this value

Based on the results of laboratory testing, the following decisions are made:

**Table B1.** Interpretation of Test Results

<b>Result</b>	<b>Decision</b>
All sample units have bacteria count $\leq m$	Accept lot
$\leq c$ out of n samples have bacteria count within $> m$ and $\leq M$	
$> c$ out of n samples have bacteria count within $> m$ and $\leq M$	Reject lot
Any sample units have bacteria count $> M$	