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INCIDENCE OF PATHOGENIC *ESCHERICHIA COLI* FROM NORMAL FOOD MATERIALS AND FECAL SPECIMENS

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(Summary of Masters thesis written under direction of Dr. S. HAMADA)

The incidence of pathogenic *Escherichia coli* in 1,128 samples of raw milk, 41 samples of oysters from oyster-beds, 10 samples of squid, and in 326 feces of 100 cows, 111 pigs, 57 fowls, and 58 human beings, was investigated.

1) Twelve hundred and thirty strains of *E. coli* were isolated from the above-mentioned materials. All of these strains, and 195 stock culture strains of *E. coli* originating from oysters and market milk, were examined for pathogenic *E. coli*.

2) Thirty-one of 1,234 strains (smooth types) of *E. coli* were serologically identified as pathogenic *E. coli*. Twelve strains originated from raw milk and 19 strains originated from feces.

3) The serotypes of 12 strains from raw milk are as follows: O 26 (1 strain), O 86 and O 86 a (2 strains respectively), O 112^{ac} (3 strains), O 124 (1 strain), O 125 (2 strains), and O 127 a (1 strain).

The serotypes of 19 strains from feces are as follows: O 26 (3 strains from cows), O 112^{ac} (1 from fowl, 2 from pigs and 3 from human beings), O 119 (2 from human beings), O 124 (2 from pigs), O 125 (1 from cows), and O 136 (5 from cows).

4) The report that pathogenic *E. coli* was isolated from raw milk is the first one in Japan, as far as I know.