



International Commission on  
Microbiological Specifications for Foods

Workshop on:  
**Microbiological Sampling and  
Testing in Food Safety Management**



*“Securing Global Food Safety”*

Sebel Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne, Australia  
September, 2011



Australian Institute of  
Food Science and Technology  
Incorporated




International Commission on  
Microbiological Specifications  
for Foods (ICMSF)



International Food Association for  
Food Protection

**Sampling and monitoring: 2**  
Sampling Methods, Microbiology, September 2011

Martine Reij and Marcel Zwietering  
Laboratory of Food Microbiology  
Wageningen University



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**Pdefective sample: distribution !**

$P(C > m)$

- Bacteria are often distributed LOG-NORMAL
- Most products: large standard deviation ( $\sigma$ )
  - raw meat, fish, vegetables, eggs
  - dry products
- Well mixed products: smaller standard deviation ( $\sigma$ )
  - Liquids, hamburger meat, pooled eggs

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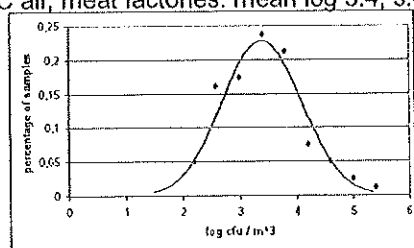
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**Products and distributions: example**

TVC air, meat factories: mean log 3.4, s.d. 0.7



log (mean) = 4.0

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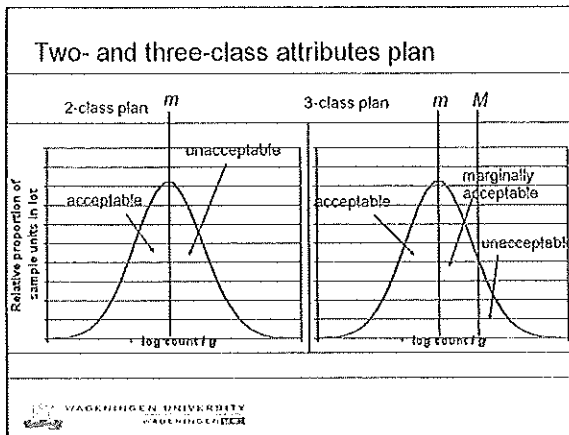
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### When to apply which plan ?

Degree of concern	Conditions expected after sampling		
	Reduce concern	No change	Increase concern (growth)
Utility	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3
Indicator	Case 4	Case 5	Case 6
Moderate hazard	Case 7	Case 8	Case 9
Serious hazard	Case 10	Case 11	Case 12
Severe hazard	Case 13	Case 14	Case 15

Increase stringency

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### When to apply which plan ?

Degree of concern	Conditions expected after sampling		
	Reduce concern	No change	Increase concern (growth)
Moderate hazard	Case 7: $n=5, c=2$	Case 8: $n=5, c=1$	Case 9: $n=10, c=1$
Serious hazard	Case 10: $n=5, c=0$	Case 11: $n=10, c=0$	Case 12: $n=20, c=0$
Severe hazard	Case 13: $n=15, c=0$	Case 14: $n=30, c=0$	Case 15: $n=60, c=0$

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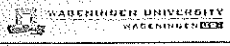
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### Microbiological Criteria in Relation to Mean Concentration

Distributional assumption for sampling results  
e.g. log-normal with standard deviation known from  
previous experience

- Determine proportions acceptable, (marginally acceptable), and defective for possible mean log cfu/g
- Calculate acceptance probabilities and plot against mean log cfu/g



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### Procedure

- Lognormal distribution  $(\mu, \sigma) > m$  : proportion defective  $P_d$
- With  $n, c: P_a$  of the lot



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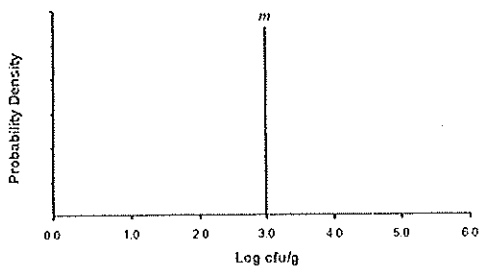
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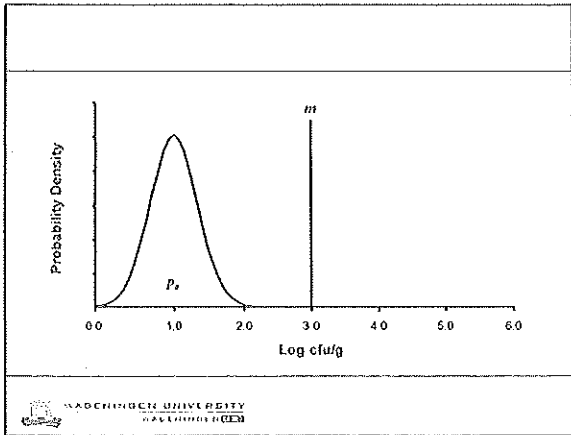
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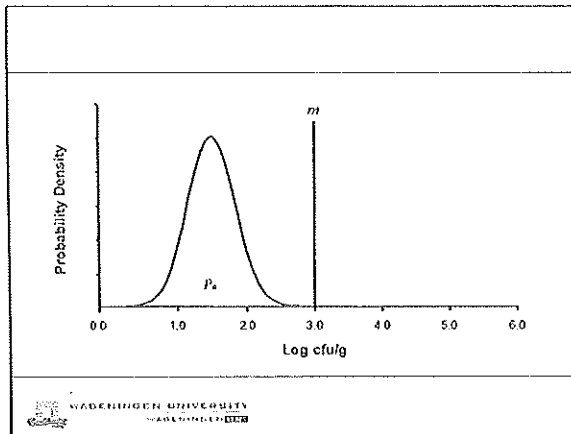
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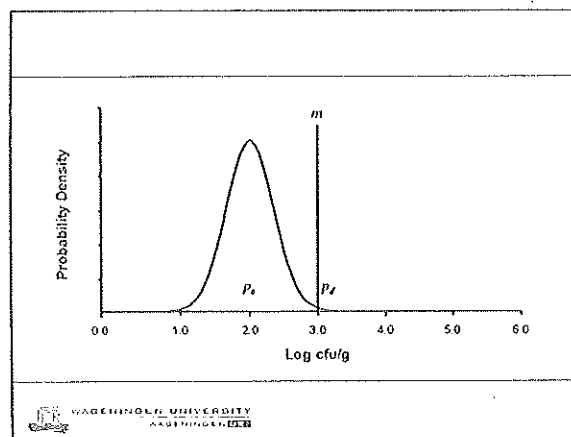
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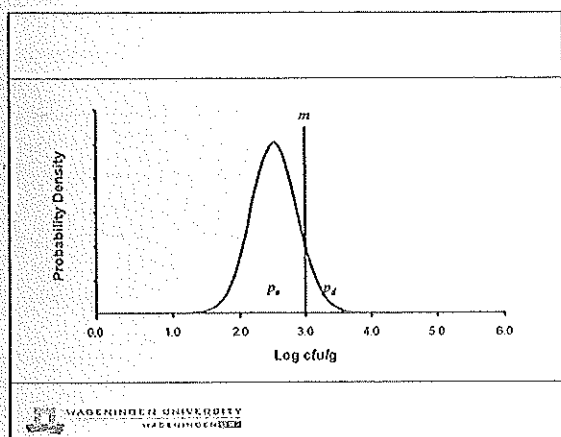
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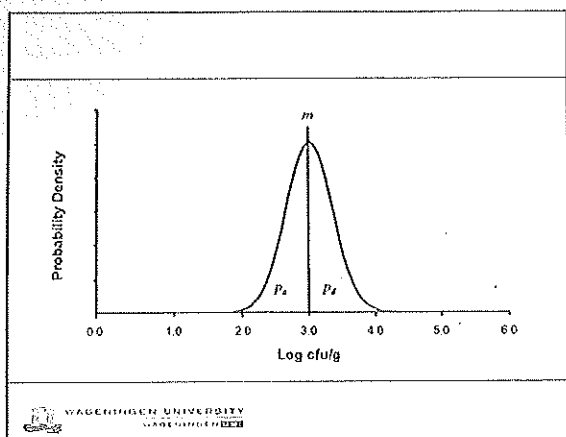
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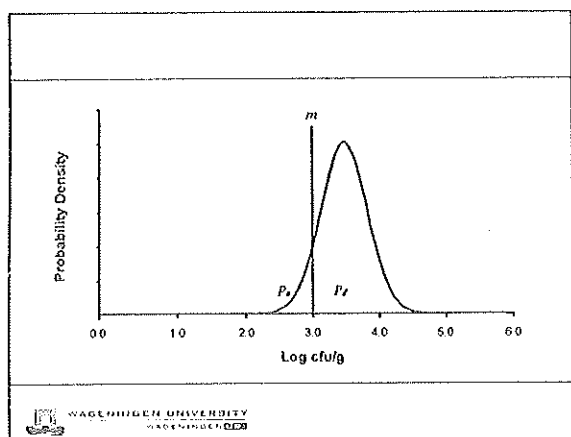
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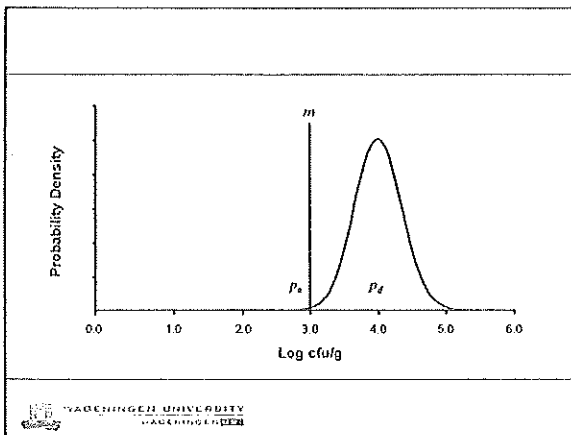
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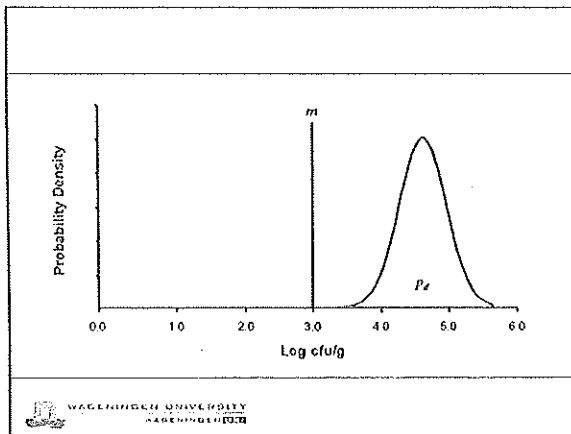
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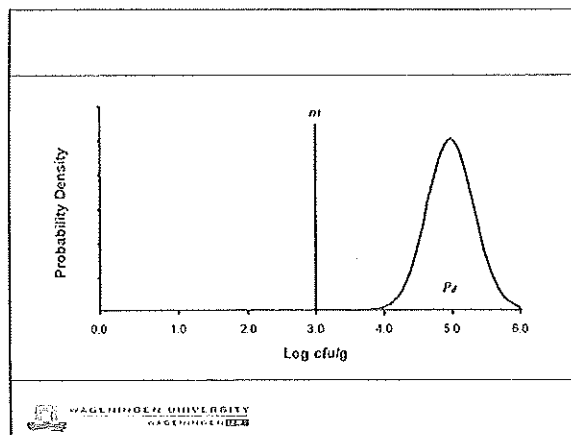
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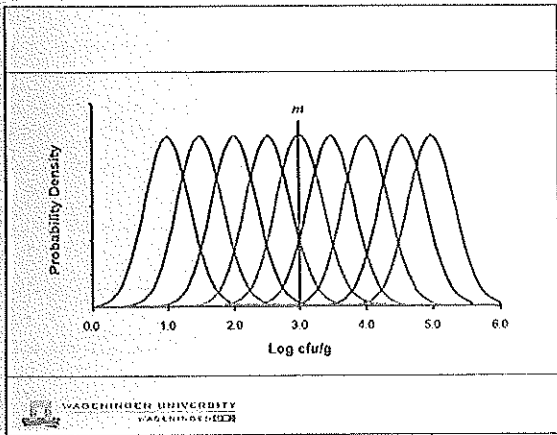
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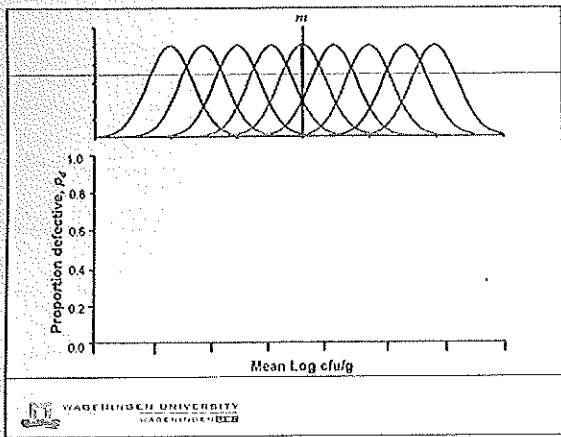
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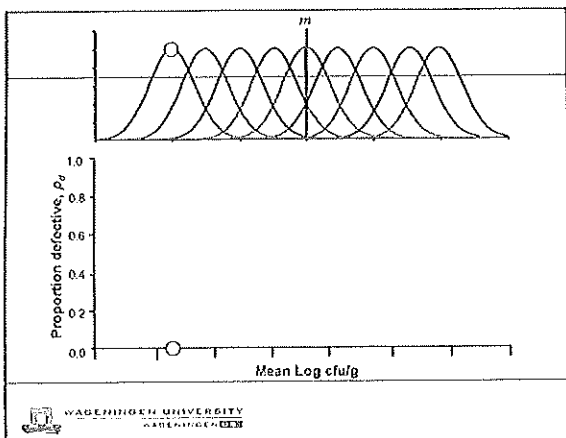
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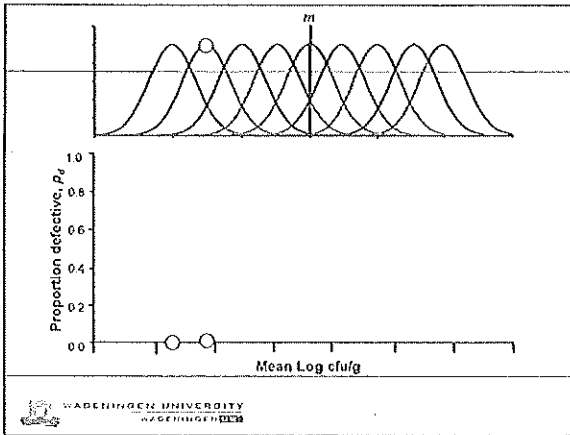
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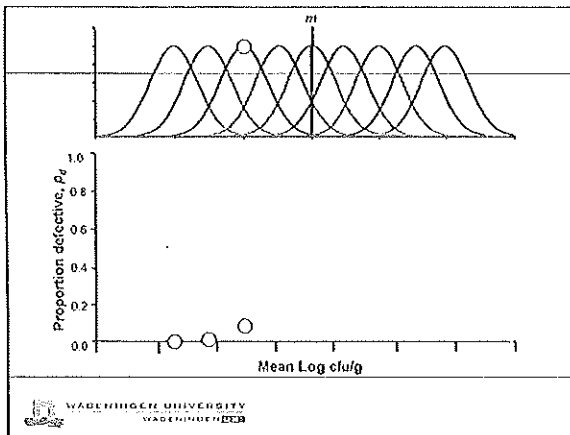
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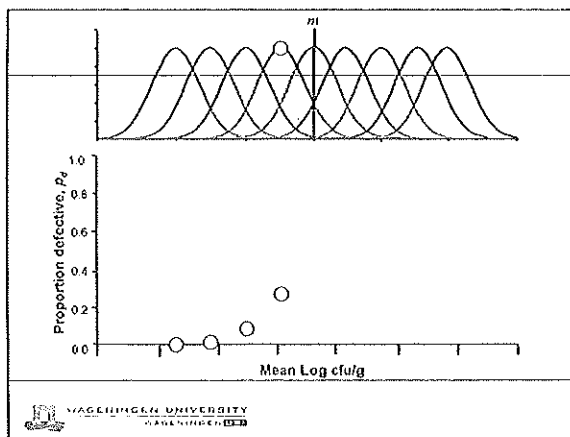
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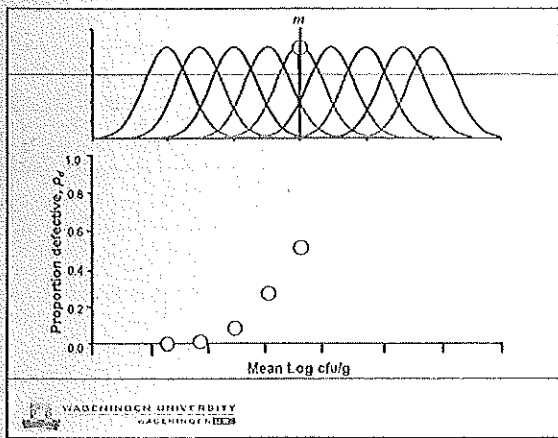
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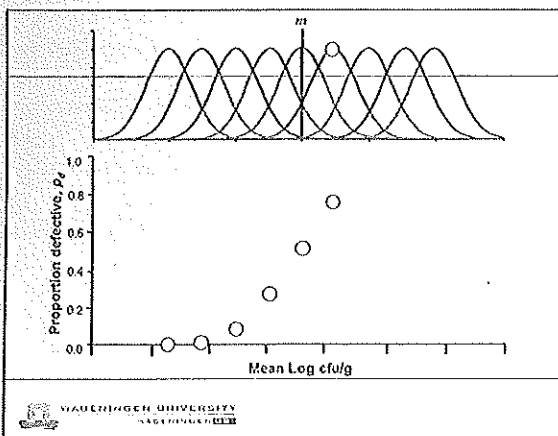
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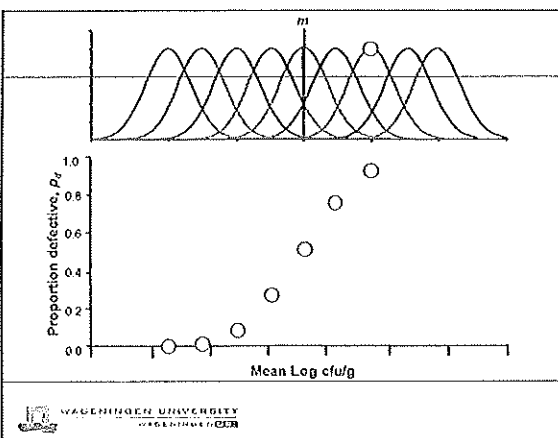
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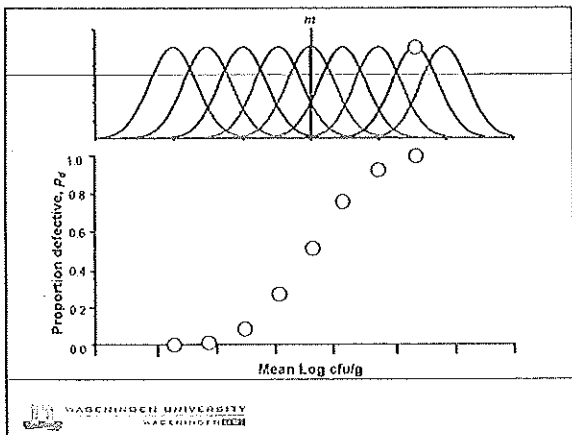
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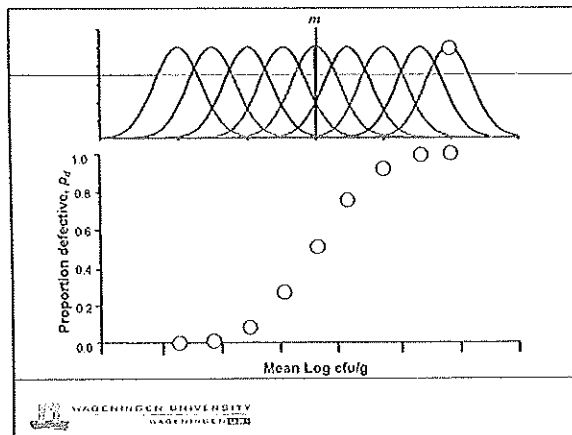
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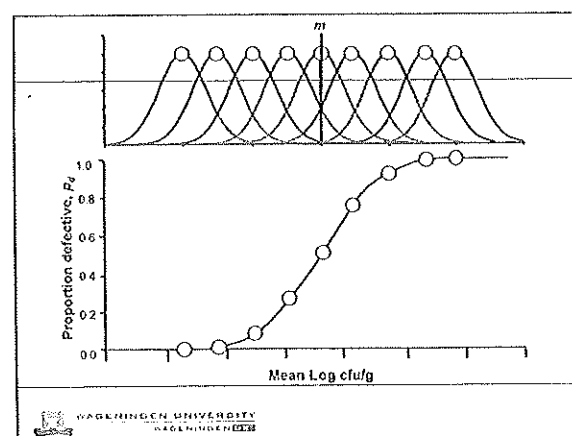
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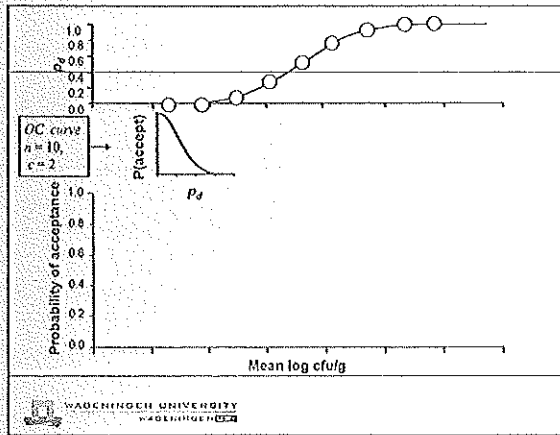
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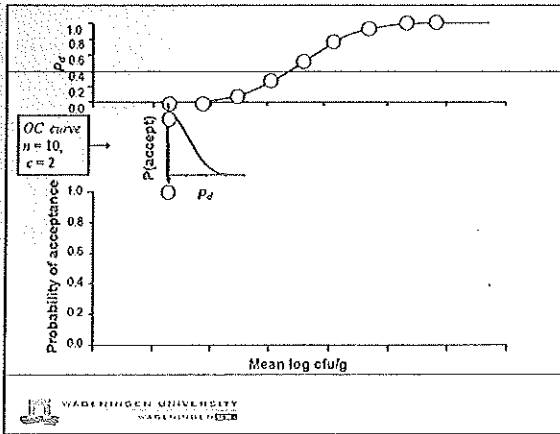
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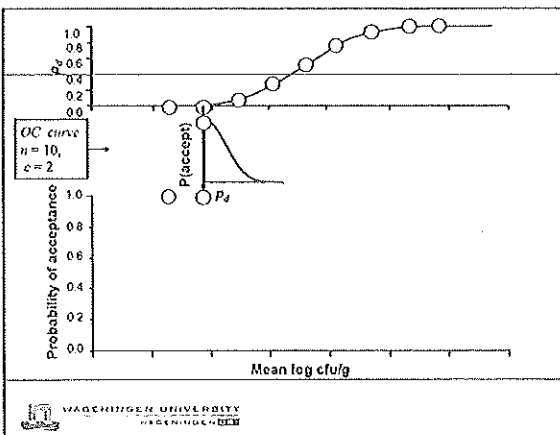
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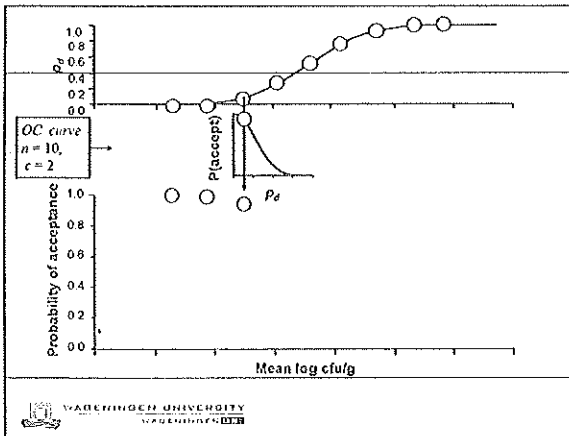
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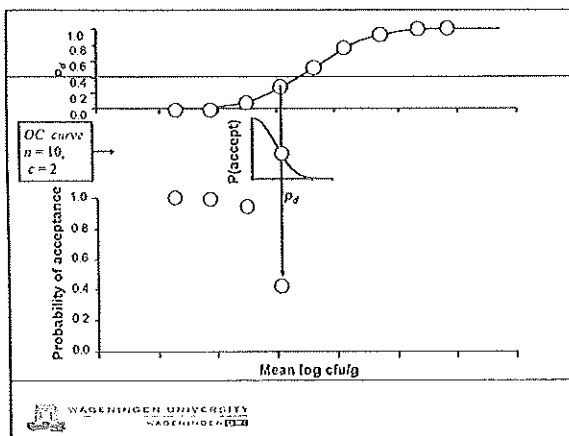
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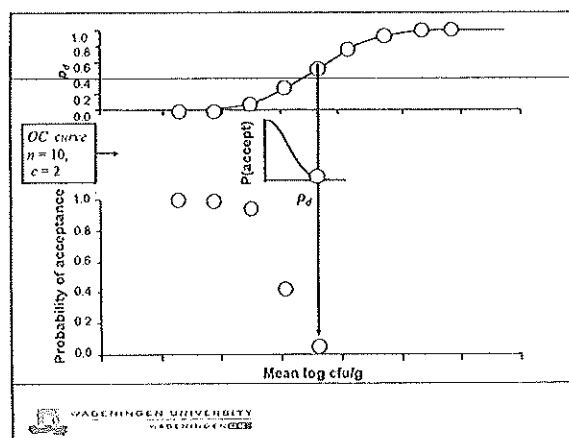
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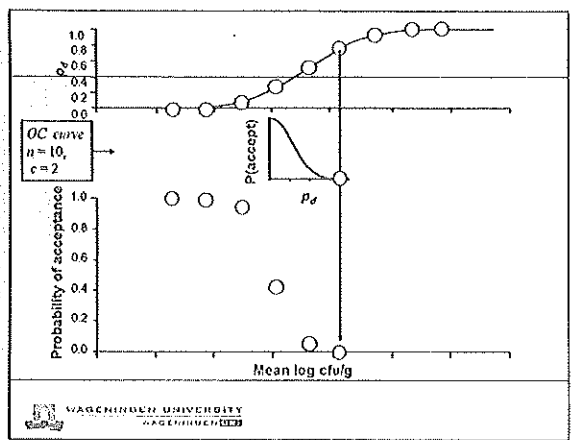
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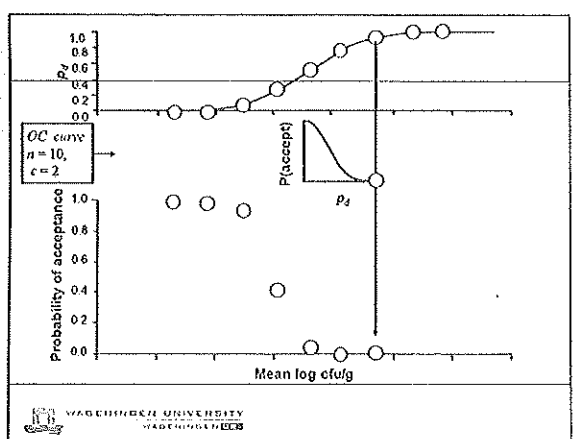
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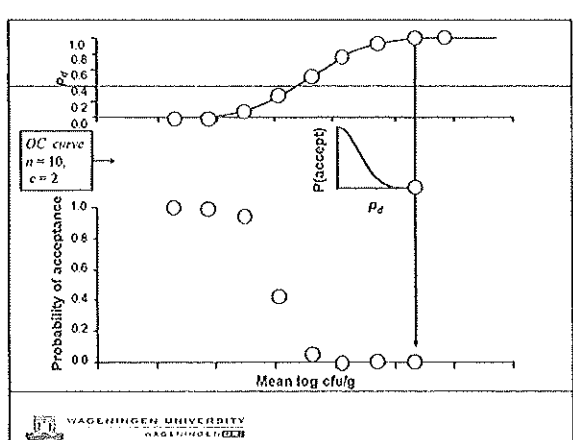
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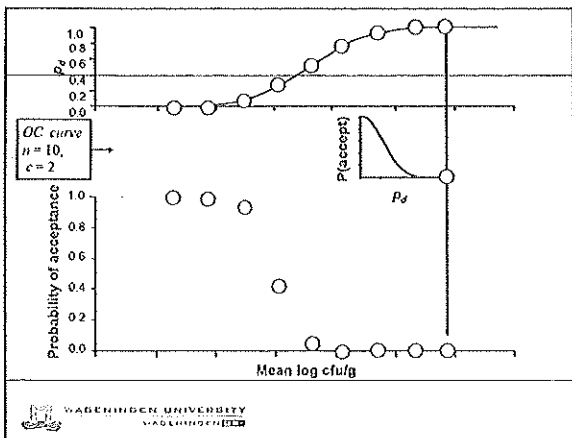
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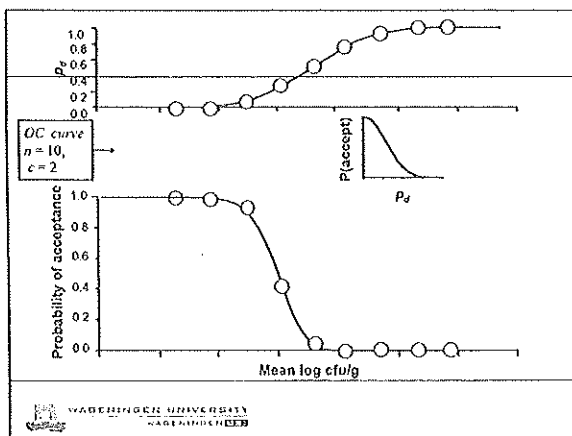
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**Procedure**

- Lognormal distribution  $(\mu, \sigma) > m$  : proportion defective  $P_d$
- With  $n, c$ :  $P_a$  of the lot
- Performance of a plan depends on  $n, c, m$ , sample size
- ... but also on  $\sigma$

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Food Control 20 (2009) 567-579

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

**Food Control**


Journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodcont](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodcont)

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Relating microbiological criteria to food safety objectives and performance objectives

M. van Schothorst<sup>a</sup>, M.H. Zwietering<sup>b,\*</sup>, T. Ross<sup>c</sup>, R.L. Buchanan<sup>d</sup>, M.B. Cole<sup>e</sup>, International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF)

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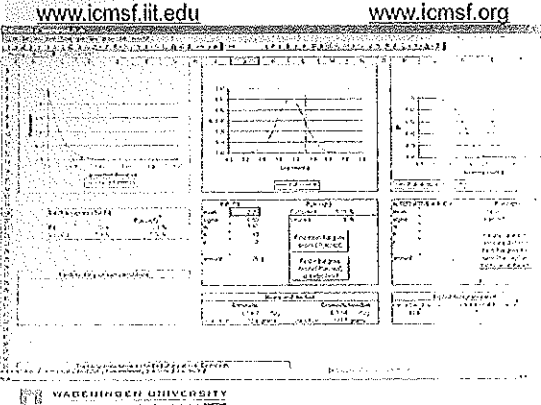
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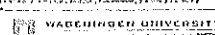
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