Soft drinks microbiology
2 November 2016

Programme

08.30  Registration & refreshments

09.00  Welcome & introduction  
Dr Peter Wareing, Food Safety & Manufacturing Consultant, Leatherhead Food Research

09.15  Typical microorganisms in soft drinks
A general review of the bacteria, yeasts and moulds that can occur in this group of products.

10.00  Growth requirements of microorganisms in soft drinks
Many organisms have adapted to the specialised conditions found in soft drinks. Learn about the conditions required for some typical organisms to grow.

10.30  Preservatives for soft drinks
A look at chemical- and sugar-based preservatives for soft drinks, how they work and what products they tend to be used in.

11.00  Refreshments

11.15  Soft drink processing methods
What methods are normally used to process soft drinks and how do they affect the typical soft drink microflora? What novel methods can be used and what are the advantages and disadvantages compared with traditional methods?

12.00  Microbiology of still & carbonated bottled waters
A surprising number of microorganisms can live and grow in plain bottled waters. Have any public health issues been associated with bottled waters? Does carbonation affect the microflora?

12.45  Lunch
Microbiology of ready-to-drink products, fruit juices & smoothies

Ready to drink products have increased nutritional content; are they therefore more prone to spoilage? Fruit juices and smoothies have particular problems relating to their natural fruit content; dairy ingredients used in some types of smoothies also have their challenges.

Laboratory methods for soft drink analysis

What methods are used for the analysis of soft drink microorganisms? Are they different to the standard methods used in other industries?

Rapid methods for molecular ID

John Haines, Principal Scientist, Leatherhead Food Research, Richard Onley, Research Scientist, Leatherhead Food Research

An overview of rapid methods for microbiology and the molecular techniques used to identify microbial contaminants.

Questions & answers

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