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Author	Johanna Tawe	
Title (English)	Validation of PCR assays for detection of STEC O104:H4 and O121 in food	
Title (Swedish)		
Abstract	<p>Shigatoxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC) can cause infections in humans which can be serious and sometimes fatal. There is a great need for methods that are able to detect different serogroups of STEC. In this project, conventional and real-time PCR assays for detection of STEC O104:H4 and O121, as recommended by the European Union Reference Laboratory (EU-RL) for STEC, were validated. The specificity, limit of detection, repeatability, efficiency and robustness were determined for three real-time PCR assays. The validation showed that the real-time PCR reactions were specific and sensitive although some additional tests are required.</p>	
Keywords	Pathogenic <i>E. coli</i> , STEC, VTEC, EHEC, PCR, validation	
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