

Table 3. Isolation of *V. cholerae* O1 from environmental waters by different enrichment and culture techniques

Mo and yr of sampling	No. of samples analyzed	No. (%) positive for <i>V. cholerae</i> O1 by conventional enrichment culture method	No. (%) positive for <i>V. cholerae</i> O1 by AST method [†]	Mean concentration (cfu/ml) of <i>V. cholerae</i> O1 after enrichment for 6 h and culture under various conditions*			% SM ^R cells expressing resistance prior to enrichment in BP medium [(A/C) × 100]	% of total <i>V. cholerae</i> O1 cells detected by conventional enrichment culture [(B/C) × 100]
				Enriched in BP medium containing streptomycin (A)	Enriched in BP medium devoid of antibiotic and cultured under various conditions			
					TTGA plates devoid of streptomycin (B)	TTGA plates containing streptomycin (C)		
Jan. 2005	36	2 (5.5)	11 (30.5)	0.36×10^1	9.39×10^2	3.48×10^3	0.10	26.98
Feb. 2005	55	5 (9.0)	9 (16.3)	1.28×10^1	1.78×10^2	1.58×10^3	0.81	11.26
March 2005	42	6 (14.2)	25 (59.5)	0.24×10^1	0.83×10^2	1.22×10^3	0.19	6.80
April 2005	41	7 (17.0)	17 (41.4)	2.17×10^1	2.17×10^2	5.83×10^3	0.37	3.72
May 2005	44	7 (15.9)	27 (61.3)	0.11×10^1	0.66×10^1	1.86×10^3	0.05	0.35
June 2005	36	5 (13.8)	15 (41.6)	0.60×10^1	5.3×10^1	2.6×10^3	0.23	2.03
July 2005	40	3 (7.5)	10 (25.0)	0.20×10^1	0	6.3×10^3	0.03	0
Aug. 2005	50	6 (12.0)	19 (38.0)	4.84×10^1	5.5×10^2	9.3×10^4	0.05	0.59

TTGA, taurocholate–tellurite–gelatin agar.

*Mean of *V. cholerae* O1 counts derived from the AST-positive water samples.

[†]Difference between the proportion of water samples found positive for *V. cholerae* O1 by conventional enrichment method vs. the AST method was statistically significant at $P < 0.001$.