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| **1. Flow cytometry** | Parameter estimate ± SE§ | *χ2*-test |
| Intercept  | -4.02 ± 1.01\*\*\*, z = -3.99 |  |
| Density | 0.63 ± 0.23\*\*, *z* = 2.78 | ***χ21,3*= 25.34, *p* <0.001** |
| Sample | -0.01 ± 0.34NS, z= -0.04 | *χ21,4*= 0.001, *p* = 0.97 |
|  |  |  |
| Date  | Standard deviation <0.001  |  |
| Date/Location | Standard deviation = 0.61 |  |
| **2. LB agar counts** |  |  |
| Intercept  | -3.00 ± 0.49\*\*\*, z = -6.11 |  |
| Density | 0.47 ± 0.12\*\*\*, *z* = 3.85 | ***χ21,4* = 14.48, *p* < 0.001** |
| Sample | -0.62 ± 0.20\*\*, z= -3.04 | ***χ21,4* = 9.34, *p* < 0.01** |
|  |  |  |
| Date  | Standard deviation <0.001  |  |
| Date/Location | Standard deviation = 0.62 |  |
| **3. Total coliform counts** |  |  |
| Intercept  | -1.97 ± 0.17\*\*\*, z = -11.73 |  |
| Density | 0.78 ± 0.09\*\*\*, *z* = 8.94 | ***χ21,4* = 48.53, *p* < 0.001** |
| Sample | -0.92 ± 0.20\*\*\*, z= -4.62 | ***χ21,4* = 43.39, *p* < 0.001** |
|  |  |  |
| Date  | Standard deviation <0.001  |  |
| Date/Location | Standard deviation < 0.001 |  |
| **4. *E. coli* counts** |  |  |
| Intercept  | -1.76 ± 0.23\*\*\*, z = -7.76 |  |
| Density | 0.62 ± 0.09\*\*\*, *z* = 3.82 | ***χ21,4* = 11.32, *p* < 0.001** |
| Sample | -0.57 ± 0.20\*\*, z= -2.82 | ***χ21,4* = 7.99, *p* < 0.01** |
|  |  |  |
| Date  | Standard deviation <0.001  |  |
| Date/Location | Standard deviation = 0.52 |  |