

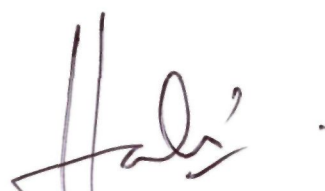
**THE OCCURRENCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF
BACTERIA IN RAW AND UNPROCESSED COCONUT
MILK AT KUALA PILAH,
NEGERI SEMBILAN**

NOORALIZA BINTI ALIAS

**Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Biology
In the Faculty of Applied Sciences
Universiti Teknologi MARA**

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This Final Year Project Report entitled "**The Occurrence and Distribution of Bacteria in Raw and Unprocessed Coconut Milk at Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan**" was submitted by Nooraliza bt Alias, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Biology, in the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and was approved by



Dr. Noorlis Binti Ahmad
Supervisor
B. Sc. (Hons.) Biology
Faculty of Applied Sciences
University Teknologi MARA
Pekan Parit Tinggi,
72000 Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan



Sarini Binti Ahmad Wakid
Project Coordinator
Faculty of Applied Sciences
University Teknologi MARA
Pekan Parit Tinggi,
72000 Kuala Pilah,
Negeri Sembilan



Dr. Nor Aishah Binti Abu Shah
Head of School of Biology
Faculty of Applied Sciences
University Teknologi MARA
Pekan Parit Tinggi,
72000 Kuala Pilah,
Negeri Sembilan

Date: JANUARY 2015

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ABSTRACT

THE OCCURENCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF BACTERIA IN RAW (UNPROCESSED) COCONUT MILK AT KUALA PILAH, NEGERI SEMBILAN

Bacterial contamination of raw (unprocessed) coconut milk can originate from different sources such as air, milking equipment and handling activities of retailers. The difference batch of time purchased of raw (unprocessed) coconut milk may influence the microbial quantity in milk. Driven by those factors, the main intention of this study was to determine the prevalence of *Escherichia coli* and *Salmonella typhi* and the biosafety of raw and unprocessed coconut milk at wet market from Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan by total plate count method, most probable number (MPN) and antibiotic susceptibility method. A total of five isolates of *E. coli* and one isolate of *S. typhi* were identified from 10 sampling areas. Biochemical examination of Gram staining, catalase, indole, citrate, MR-VP and carbohydrate fermentation tests were performed for the identification of *E. coli* and *S. typhi*. All of the isolates showed a multiple resistance towards all seven antibiotics tested. Some showed a high resistance to different antibiotics including Penicillin G (P), Vancomycin (Va) and Trimethoprim (Te). However, both *E. coli* and *S. typhi* was highly susceptible towards Streptomycin (S). Overall antibiotic resistance pattern of all isolates were resitant to four resistant patterns with multiple antibiotic resistance (MAR) index ranging from 0.43 to 0.86 respectively. Based on result, these antibiotics were outrated from higher risk sources of contamination.