

ProtoCOL HR and SR

ProtoCOL FAQs

What is the area of the smallest colony ProtoCOL will count?

The smallest detectable colony size for the ProtoCOL SR is >0.2 mm diameter with a zone sizing resolution of >0.05 mm. The ProtoCOL HR has four times the resolution of the SR and is used for zone applications and micro-colony enumeration. The HR will detect colonies >0.1 mm diameter.

Can ProtoCOL be connected to a LIMS system?

The ProtoCOL can be connected to a LIMS system. This connection is made via an RS232 port and data is transferred at the same time the plate count is stored in the ProtoCOL software. The ProtoCOL stores all information from the count. The user can specify which parts of this data are transferred to the LIMS.

Can ProtoCOL count colonies on dark agar?

ProtoCOL is equipped with bottom and top LED light sources. For samples which are opaque, the top lamp is used to illuminate the top surface of the agar and enables the camera to detect the colonies.

Will ProtoCOL transfer data into other software packages?

ProtoCOL has the ability to transfer data, on request, directly into Microsoft Excel running on the ProtoCOL system. This will prevent transcription errors and allow the user to perform any data analysis in the Excel program.

What types of analysis can the ProtoCOL perform?

The ProtoCOL colony counter has the ability to enumerate pour, spread, and spiral plates. Additionally it will score antibiotic susceptibility tests and inhibition zones.

Can you connect a bar code reader to the ProtoCOL?

The ProtoCOL can be connected to a bar code reader. The connection is normally via USB. The bar code once read will send information such as Plate ID and Dilution factor for the plate to the ProtoCOL.

Can ProtoCOL be connected to a network?

ProtoCOL contains an Intel EtherExpress Pro 100+ Ethernet card. This card will allow the system to be easily networked via standard networking cables. This feature allows data to be transferred easily to the users desktop for any data manipulation.

Can comments be added to a batch or plate and displayed when it is selected?

Yes, when a new batch is started a comment box appears for the user. Also each plate within the batch of data can have a comment added.

How are touching colonies counted using ProtoCOL?

The ProtoCOL software has a separation feature that separates touching colonies and counts them individually. This algorithm also will draw a line of separation between the colonies so the user can identify the colonies that have been separated.

Does ProtoCOL have any sizing analysis capabilities?

The ProtoCOL system generates a sizing histogram for each plate that is counted. This histogram is completely user defined. This feature allows a user to perform differential counts on a single plate if colony sizes vary as well as completely eliminate certain size ranges from the count.

Can the ProtoCOL distinguish colonies on color?

With the color analysis software added to the HR or SR model the system can differentially count up to eight different colony types per plate.