

PCR Program Reality Check

10 questions to ask before trusting your results

- ☐ Is the PCR method validated for the exact matrices and sample sizes you run?
(Pain point: validation exists, but not for your product.)
- ☐ Does every PCR reaction include an internal positive control?
(Pain point: negative results aren't always trustworthy.)
- ☐ How well does the method detect low-level or stressed organisms?
(Pain point: injured cells slip through and show up later.)
- ☐ Does the workflow perform reliably in inhibitory matrices (fats, powders, cocoa, spices)?
(Pain point: certain products always cause re-tests.)
- ☐ Is the turnaround time fast end-to-end—not just the PCR runtime?
(Pain point: PCR is fast, but product still waits.)
- ☐ Do presumptive positives trigger action, or must results wait for culture confirmation?
(Pain point: one positive collapses the workflow.)
- ☐ Is the workflow easy to run consistently across operators, shifts, and sites?
(Pain point: performance depends on who runs the test.)
- ☐ Can the platform scale as volumes, pathogens, or sites increase?
(Pain point: growth adds complexity instead of consistency.)
- ☐ When something unusual happens, do you have access to real applications expertise?
(Pain point: support is slow or too generic.)
- ☐ Can PCR results be centralized, trended, and reviewed alongside environmental data?
(Pain point: results exist, but insights are manual.)