Do alternate bacterial indicators and pathogens increase after centrifuge dewatering of anaerobically digested biosolids?

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ABSTRACT
The objectives of this research were to evaluate the potential for sudden increase and/or regrowth of alternative bacteria as either indicators or pathogens after dewatering of thermophilic and mesophilically digested biosolids. The results showed that, in general, for thermophilic processes, even when a statistically significant (p<0.05) sudden increase and regrowth occurred for fecal coliforms, *Escherichia coli*, and *Enterococci*, it did not occur for *Salmonella* or *Aeromonas*. For the mesophilic process evaluated, sudden increase did not occur, but regrowth occurred for fecal coliforms, *E. coli*, *Enterococci*, and *Salmonella*. The results have implications for Class A and B biosolids regulations, as both fecal coliform and Salmonella are part of the regulatory limits. The results also suggest that the public health risks are minimal, as a result of the potential sudden increase and regrowth that may occur.