

	Assigned Unknown	<i>Butiauxella agrestis</i>	<i>Cedecea davisae</i>	<i>Cedecea neteri</i>	<i>Citrobacter koseri</i>	<i>Edwardsiella hoshinae</i>	<i>Edwardsiella ictaluri</i>	<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i>	<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i> biogroup 1	<i>Enterobacter gergoviae</i>	<i>Enterobacter intermedius</i>	<i>Escherichia blattae</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Escherichia fergusonii</i>	<i>Escherichia vulnereis</i>
Acid from glucose	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Adonitol fermentation	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Arabinose fermentation	+	-	-	+	[-]	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Arabitol fermentation	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
Arginine dihydrolase	-	d	+	d	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[-]	-	d	
Cellobiose fermentation	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Citrate (Simmons)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	d	d	-	[-]	-	
DNase at 25 C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dulcitol fermentation	-	-	-	d	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	d	d	-	
Esculin hydrolysis	+	d	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	d	d	[-]	
Gas from glucose	+	d	+	+	d	d	+	d	+	+	+	+	+	+	

Symbols: + (90-100% of strains are positive); [+] (76-89% positive);
d (26-75% positive); [-] (11-25% positive); - (0-10% positive)

The identification matrix is a very useful online reference. It shows the expected reaction of each microbe (columns) with each test (rows). The recorded test results for the microbe that has been assigned to the student is shown in the column entitled "Assigned Unknown." The identification matrix can be configured to automatically eliminate microbes based on recorded test results, or to require manual elimination by the student.

The elimination hierarchy is another valuable reference available in VirtualUnknown:Microbiology™. The elimination hierarchy graphically depicts the dichotomous tree representing the test performed and elimination of possible organisms. Each test is listed in the order it is recorded, with the recorded result noted parenthetically. Each test will contain two nodes immediately below it: Eliminated (the microbes that have been eliminated from consideration based on the recorded test result), and either Remaining (the microbes still under consideration) or the next test recorded. A different icon is shown by the "Eliminated" node if a particular test did not eliminate any microbes.

