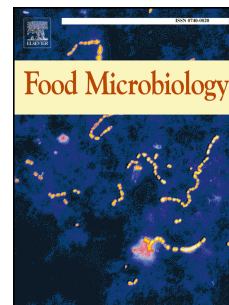


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Impact of weather conditions, leaf age and irrigation water disinfection on the major epiphytic bacterial genera of baby spinach grown in an open field

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Highlights

- Culture-dependent and culture-independent methods were compared in baby leaves
- Culture-independent methods gave the highest concentrations
- Leaf age did not affect the major epiphytic bacterial genera
- Water disinfection treatments reduced the *Enterobacteriaceae* and *Pseudomonas* spp levels.
- Solar radiation and relative humidity showed positive correlation with *Pseudomonas* spp levels.

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