E. coli O157 is one of the most important food borne pathogens which can produce food intoxication. Chromogenic media is one of the rapid test which have been used during recent decade. The aim of this study is evaluation of this technique in detection of E. coli O157 in food samples. 96 samples of salad and cooked food were collected randomly and examined for contamination by E. coli and E. coli O157 by chromogen media. Then positive cases confirmed by standard method. The results analyzed by SPSS and statistical test. Contamination by E. coli and E. coli O157 were confirmed in 10.4% and 6.25% of samples respectively. It also the speed of bacteria detection by chromogen media (18 hours and 20 min.) was less than standard method (48 hours), and sensitivity of this method was determined 99.61 percent. Chromogenic media has acceptable speed and sensitivity in detection of E. coli O157 in food samples and can be suitable alternative for traditional methods in food laboratories. In addition ready to eat contamination by E. coli and E. coli O157 can threat the health of consumers. It is necessary more control and supervision of these restaurants for reduce of contamination.

**Key Words:** Chromogen media, E. coli O157H7, Food