

**Table 1 Partial distribution of positive soil culture of environmental Mycobacterium spp. in a Caspian Sea province in areas of high and low tuberculosis prevalence**

Variable	High-prevalence area		Low-prevalence area		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Samples taken	120		100		220	
Positive cultures	25	20.8	66	66.0	91	41.4
Isolated species	8		11		12	