

**TOIDU, LOOMASÖÖDA JA VEE MIKROBIOLOOGIA.  
SÖÖTMETE ETTEVALMISTAMINE, VALMISTAMINE,  
SÄILITAMINE JA TOIMIVUSE KONTROLLIMINE**

**Microbiology of food, animal feed and water -  
Preparation, production, storage and performance  
testing of culture media (ISO 11133:2014)**

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English Version

**Microbiology of food, animal feed and water - Preparation,  
production, storage and performance testing of culture media  
(ISO 11133:2014)**

Microbiologie des aliments, des aliments pour animaux et  
de l'eau - Préparation, production, stockage et essais de  
performance des milieux de culture (ISO 11133:2014)

Mikrobiologie von Lebensmitteln, Futtermitteln und Wasser  
- Vorbereitung, Herstellung, Lagerung und  
Leistungsprüfung von Nährmedien (ISO 11133:2014)

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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

## Foreword

This document (EN ISO 11133:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 "Food products" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 275 "Food analysis - Horizontal methods" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by November 2014, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 2014.

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### Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 11133:2014 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 11133:2014 without any modification.

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## Introduction

In laboratories carrying out microbiological examinations, the main objectives are to maintain, resuscitate, grow, detect and/or enumerate a wide variety of microorganisms. Culture media are used in all traditional microbiological culture techniques and also for many alternative techniques. Many formulae of culture media are commercially available and many more, designed for specific growth purposes, are described in the literature.

Many tests and procedures depend upon culture media being capable of providing consistent and reproducible results. The requirements for media may be specific to both the sample and the organisms to be detected. Culture media meeting established performance criteria are therefore a pre-requisite for any reliable microbiological work. Sufficient testing should be carried out to demonstrate

- a) the acceptability of each batch of medium,
- b) that the medium is “fit for purpose”, and
- c) that the medium can produce consistent results.

These three criteria are an essential part of internal quality control procedures and, with appropriate documentation, will permit effective monitoring of culture media and contribute to the production of both accurate and reliable data. For reliable microbiological analysis it is essential to use culture media of proven quality. For all media described in standard methods it is essential to define the minimum acceptance criteria required to ensure their reliability. It is recommended that in the determination of the performance characteristics of a culture medium tests are carried out that conform with this International Standard.

The establishment of widely accepted minimum performance criteria for media should lead to products with more consistent quality and thus reduce the extent of testing necessary in the user's laboratory.

In addition the acceptance criteria measured by the methods defined in this International Standard can be used by all microbiological laboratories to evaluate the productive, selective and/or elective properties of a culture medium.

In the microbiological analysis of food, animal feed and water, the requirements of this International Standard have precedence in the assessment of culture media quality.

# Microbiology of food, animal feed and water — Preparation, production, storage and performance testing of culture media

## 1 Scope

This International Standard defines terms related to quality assurance of culture media and specifies the requirements for the preparation of culture media intended for the microbiological analysis of food, animal feed, and samples from the food or feed production environment as well as all kinds of water intended for consumption or used in food production.

These requirements are applicable to all categories of culture media prepared for use in laboratories performing microbiological analyses.

This International Standard also sets criteria and describes methods for the performance testing of culture media. This International Standard applies to producers such as:

- commercial bodies producing and/or distributing ready-to-use or semi-finished reconstituted or dehydrated media;
- non-commercial bodies supplying media to third parties;
- microbiological laboratories preparing culture media for their own use.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 6887-1, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 1: General rules for the preparation of the initial suspension and decimal dilutions*

ISO 6887-2, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 2: Specific rules for the preparation of meat and meat products*

ISO 6887-3, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 3: Specific rules for the preparation of fish and fishery products*

ISO 6887-4, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 4: Specific rules for the preparation of miscellaneous products*

ISO 6887-5, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 5: Specific rules for the preparation of milk and milk products*

ISO 6887-6, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 6: Specific rules for the preparation of samples taken at the primary production stage*

ISO 7704, *Water quality — Evaluation of membrane filters used for microbiological analyses*



ISO 7218, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — General requirements and guidance for microbiological examinations*

ISO 8199, *Water quality — General guidance on the enumeration of micro-organisms by culture*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

NOTE 1 This clause gives the general definitions relating to quality assurance of culture media and provides terminology relating to performance testing, culture media and test microorganisms.

NOTE 2 Tables E.2 and F.2 give explanations of media name abbreviated terms.

#### 3.1 General terms and definitions

##### 3.1.1

##### **quality control**

part of quality management focused on fulfilling quality requirements

Note 1 to entry: See Reference [1].

##### 3.1.2

##### **batch of culture medium**

##### **lot of culture medium**

homogeneous and fully traceable unit of a medium referring to a defined amount of bulk, semi-finished product or end product, which is consistent in type and quality and which has been produced within one defined production period, having been assigned the same batch (or lot) number

##### 3.1.3

##### **chromogenic substrate**

##### **fluorogenic substrate**

substrate containing a chromophore/fluorophore group and a substrate utilizable by bacteria or fungi

Note 1 to entry: After splitting the chromogenic/fluorogenic substrate, the chromophore/fluorophore is released and a coloured/fluorescent end product becomes visible/can be detected using an ultraviolet (UV) lamp.

#### 3.2 Terminology of performance testing

##### 3.2.1

##### **performance of culture medium**

response of a culture medium to challenge by test organisms under defined conditions

##### 3.2.2

##### **target microorganism**

microorganism or group of microorganisms to be detected or enumerated

##### 3.2.3

##### **non-target microorganism**

microorganism that is suppressed by the medium and/or conditions of incubation or does not show expected characteristics of the target microorganism

##### 3.2.4

##### **productivity of culture medium**

level of recovery of a target microorganism from the culture medium under defined conditions

##### 3.2.5

##### **selectivity of culture medium**

degree of inhibition of a non-target microorganism on or in a selective culture medium under defined conditions