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**Traditional Chinese medicine —  
*Glehnia littoralis* root**

*Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — racine de Glehnia littoralis*



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Published in Switzerland

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional Chinese medicine*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

*Glehnia littoralis* root is the dried or dried peeled root of *Glehnia littoralis* Fr. Schmidt ex Miq. (Apiaceae), which is recorded in the Chinese, Japanese and Korean pharmacopoeias, Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards and Taiwan herbal pharmacopoeia. *Glehnia littoralis* root is internationally recognized as a medicinal material and there is great demand for it in the international market. However, there are many problems seriously affecting the international trade of *Glehnia littoralis* root, including the following:

- 1) Quality requirements for *Glehnia littoralis* root are different among different countries and regions.
- 2) *Glehnia littoralis* root is often substituted with fake and inferior *Glehnia littoralis* root.
- 3) Different collecting times, processing methods, packaging, transportation and storage conditions often result in different qualities of *Glehnia littoralis* root.

Therefore, the establishment of an International Standard for *Glehnia littoralis* root is necessary to guarantee the quality, safety and consistency of this valuable herbal medicine. This document includes sections on morphology evaluation (general, macroscopic and microscopic characteristics), physicochemical indexes (moisture, total ash, acid-insoluble ash, marker compounds, pesticide residues and sulfur dioxide residue) and heavy metal (lead, arsenic, cadmium and mercury) content.

As national implementation may differ, national standards bodies are invited to modify the values given in [5.4](#), [5.5](#), and [5.6](#) in their national standards. Examples of national and regional values are given in [Annex D](#).



# Traditional Chinese medicine — *Glehnia littoralis* root

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the quality and safety requirements of *Glehnia littoralis* root, which is derived from the plant *Glehnia littoralis* Fr Schmidt ex Miq.

This document applies to *Glehnia littoralis* root that is sold and used as natural medicine in international trade, including Chinese materia medica (whole medicinal materials) and decoction pieces derived from this plant.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 1575, *Tea — Determination of total ash*

ISO 1577, *Tea — Determination of acid-insoluble ash*

ISO 1666, *Starch — Determination of moisture content — Oven-drying method*

ISO 18664, *Traditional Chinese Medicine — Determination of heavy metals in herbal medicines used in Traditional Chinese Medicine*

ISO 21371, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Labelling requirements of products intended for oral or topical use*

ISO 22217, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Storage requirements for raw materials and decoction pieces*

ISO 22258, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Determination of pesticide residues in natural products by gas chromatography*

ISO 22590, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Determination of sulfur dioxide in natural products by titration*

World Health Organization, *Quality control methods for herbal materials*, 2011

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### tap root

main root of *Glehnia littoralis* Fr. Schmidt ex Miq. that grows straight downwards and produces smaller side roots

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 1](#), B.