

Foodstuffs - Determination of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products for infants and young children by SPE clean up and HPLC-MS/MS

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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English Version

Foodstuffs - Determination of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin in  
cereals and cereal products for infants and young children  
by SPE clean up and HPLC-MS/MS

Produits alimentaires - Dosage des toxines T-2 et HT-2  
dans les céréales et les produits céréaliers pour  
nourrissons et enfants en bas âge par purification par  
SPE et CLHP-SM/SM

Lebensmittel - Bestimmung von T 2 Toxin und HT 2  
Toxin in Getreide und Säuglings- und  
Kleinkindernahrung auf Getreidebasis mit HPLC  
MS/MS nach SPE-Reinigung

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 9 October 2022.

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## European foreword

This document (EN 16923:2022) has been prepared by 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2023.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 16923:2017.

In comparison with the previous edition, the following technical modifications have been made:

- the second elution step in the solid phase extraction in 7.4 is more clearly described.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

The mycotoxin T-2 toxin and its metabolite HT-2 toxin belong to the group of trichothecenes which are produced by various *Fusarium* species. Cereals like maize, wheat, barley, oats and rye are most likely to be affected.

WARNING 1 — Suitable precaution and protection measures need to be taken when carrying out working steps with harmful chemicals. The latest version of the hazardous substances ordinance, Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 [3], should be taken into account as well as appropriate national statements, e.g. such as in [4].

WARNING 2 — The use of this document can involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This document does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

WARNING 3 — T-2 toxin and its metabolite HT-2 toxin are known to have carcinogenic effects.

## 1 Scope

This document describes a method for the determination of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal-based products, e.g. oats, intended for nutrition of infants and young children by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) coupled with tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) after cleanup by solid phase extraction (SPE) [5].

The method has been validated for HT-2 toxin in oat flour at levels of 9,3 µg/kg and 28,1 µg/kg, oat flakes at levels of 16,5 µg/kg and 21,4 µg/kg, and breakfast cereals (containing oat flakes) at a level of 8,1 µg/kg and for T-2 toxin in oat flour at levels of 4,4 µg/kg and 8,3 µg/kg, oat flakes at levels of 4,9 µg/kg and 6,6 µg/kg and breakfast cereals (containing oat flakes) at a level of 3,5 µg/kg.

Laboratory experiences [6] have shown that the method is also applicable to highly swelling materials (dry cereal-based porridges and modified starches), but these were not examined in the method validation study. Details are outlined in 7.3.

The method can also be applied to oat-by-products at higher levels of T-2- and HT-2 toxin. In this case, the dilution steps need to be considered [6].

The method can also be applied to cereals and cereal products for infants and young children based on e.g. wheat, barley and rice. In this case, the method needs to be in-house-validated for each material. At the time of the interlaboratory study, planned range was 10 µg/kg to 100 µg/kg, and it is known from the pre-study that the method works well in the whole range, although final validation was only done in the range from 3,5 µg/kg to 28,1 µg/kg.

## 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.

EN ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use - Specification and test methods (ISO 3696)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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/ui>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

## 4 Principle

T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin are extracted with acetonitrile-water mixture and by shaking manually or with a laboratory blender. A solid phase extraction column or a pass through column is used to clean up and concentrate the filtered and diluted extract, see also [7]. The toxins are determined by HPLC coupled with tandem mass spectrometry.

## 5 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and water complying with grade 1 of EN ISO 3696, unless otherwise specified. Solvents shall be of quality for HPLC analysis, unless otherwise specified.