
**Microbiology of food and animal feeding
stuffs — Horizontal method for the
detection of *Salmonella* spp.**

*Microbiologie des aliments — Méthode horizontale pour la recherche des
Salmonella spp.*



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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.ch
Web www.iso.ch

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 6579 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Microbiology*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 6579:1993), which has been technically revised.

Annexes A and B form a normative part of this International Standard. Annex C is for information only.

Introduction

Because of the large variety of food and feed products, this horizontal method may not be appropriate in every detail for certain products. In this case, different methods, which are specific to these products, may be used if absolutely necessary for justified technical reasons. Nevertheless, every attempt should be made to apply this horizontal method as far as possible.

When this International Standard is next reviewed, account will be taken of all information then available regarding the extent to which this horizontal method has been followed and the reasons for deviations from this method in the case of particular products.

The harmonization of test methods cannot be immediate, and for certain groups of products International Standards and/or national standards may already exist that do not comply with this horizontal method. It is hoped that when such standards are reviewed they will be changed to comply with this International Standard so that eventually the only remaining departures from this horizontal method will be those necessary for well-established technical reasons.

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WARNING — In order to safeguard the health of laboratory personnel, it is essential that tests for detecting *Salmonella*, and especially *Salmonella* Typhi and *Salmonella* Paratyphi, are only undertaken in properly equipped laboratories, under the control of a skilled microbiologist, and that great care is taken in the disposal of all incubated materials.

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a horizontal method for the detection of *Salmonella*, including *Salmonella* Typhi and *Salmonella* Paratyphi.

Subject to the limitations discussed in the Introduction, this International Standard is applicable to

- products intended for human consumption and the feeding of animals;
- environmental samples in the area of food production and food handling.

WARNING — The method may not recover all *Salmonella* Typhi and Paratyphi.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 6887-1, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — 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 7218:1996, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — General rules for microbiological examinations*

ISO 8261, *Milk and milk products — General guidance for the preparation of test samples, initial suspensions and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

Salmonella

microorganisms which form typical or less typical colonies on solid selective media and which display the biochemical and serological characteristics described when tests are carried out in accordance with this International Standard