
**Water quality — Determination of selected
nitrophenols — Method by solid-phase
extraction and gas chromatography with
mass spectrometric detection**

*Qualité de l'eau — Dosage des nitrophénols sélectionnés — Méthode par
extraction en phase solide avec détection par chromatographie en phase
gazeuse et spectrométrie de masse*



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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.

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.

International Standard ISO 17495 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Physical, chemical and biochemical methods*.

Annexes A to D of this International Standard are for information only.

Introduction

Several methods may be applied to determine nitrophenols in water. This International Standard describes a gas chromatographic/mass spectrometric determination after solid-phase extraction and derivatization with diazomethane. It should be investigated whether and to what extent particular problems will require the specification of additional marginal conditions.

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WARNING — Persons using this International Standard should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This International Standard does not purport to address all safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate health and safety practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of selected nitrophenols (see Table 1) in drinking, ground and surface water in mass concentrations $> 0,5 \mu\text{g/l}^{(1)}$.

Table 1 — Nitrophenols to which this method is applicable

	CAS No.		CAS No.
2-Nitrophenol	88-75-5	2,4-Dinitrophenol	51-28-5
3-Nitrophenol	554-84-7	2,5-Dinitrophenol	329-71-5
4-Nitrophenol	100-02-7	2,6-Dinitrophenol	573-56-8
4-Methyl-2-nitrophenol	119-33-5	2,4-Dinitro-6-methylphenol	534-52-1
3-Methyl-4-nitrophenol	2581-34-2	2,6-Dinitro-4-methylphenol	2423-71-4
5-Methyl-2-nitrophenol	700-38-9	2,4-Dichloro-6-nitrophenol	609-89-2
3-Methyl-2-nitrophenol	4920-77-8	2,6-Dichloro-4-nitrophenol	618-80-4
CAS = Chemical Abstracts Service.			

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 5667-1:1980, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 1: Guidance on the design of sampling programmes*.

ISO 5667-2:1991, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 2: Guidance on sampling techniques*.

1) See the results from the interlaboratory trial given in annex C.

ISO 5667-3:1994, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 3: Guidance on the preservation and handling of samples*.

ISO 8466-1:1990, *Water quality — Calibration and evaluation of analytical methods and estimation of performance characteristics — Part 1: Statistical evaluation of the linear calibration function*.

3 Principle

Solid-phase extraction of the nitrophenols is carried out from the acidified sample, followed by solvent elution, derivatization with diazomethane and determination by gas chromatography and mass spectrometry.

It is absolutely essential that the tests described in this International Standard be carried out by suitably qualified staff.

4 Interferences

4.1 Interferences during enrichment

In order to avoid losses, analyse the sample as soon as possible after sampling. If storage is unavoidable, store at 4 °C until sample pretreatment.

The commercially available adsorbance materials are often of varying quality. Considerable batch-to-batch variations in quality and selectivity of this material are possible.

The recovery may vary with the concentration, and shall therefore regularly be checked at different concentrations. Calibration and analysis shall be performed with material from one and the same batch only.

Suspended matter in the water sample (such as iron hydroxide, calcium carbonate) occurring on sampling, storage and sample preparation, as well as increased concentrations of microorganisms, may clog the packing. In this case the water sample may be filtered through a glass-fibre filter prior to the enrichment. A filtration step shall be mentioned in the test report.

Possible losses due to heating and volume reduction of the eluate may be reduced by the addition of a keeper (for example iso-octane)

4.2 Interferences in the gas chromatograph

The operating conditions shall be set in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. These settings shall be checked at regular intervals.

General interferences, caused by the injection system or insufficient separation, can be eliminated with the help of special laboratory experience and the instrument manuals.

Excess diazomethane may cause instrument failure or damage, due to its high reactivity. Therefore care should be taken to remove excess diazomethane as far as possible by reducing the volume of the solution.

The use of alcohol as solvent should be avoided because any alcohol may destroy the deactivation layer (poly-siloxane) of the glass liner, leading to column load and an overload of the detector. In this case, the quantification of the analyte and the reproducibility of the result are no longer possible.

The stability of the analyte system should be checked (for example by application of a measuring standard).