

Sensory analysis - General guidelines for the selection, training and monitoring of selected assessors and expert sensory assessors (ISO 8586:2012)

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

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English Version

Sensory analysis - General guidelines for the selection, training and monitoring of selected assessors and expert sensory assessors (ISO 8586:2012, Corrected version 2014-06-15)

Analyse sensorielle - Lignes directrices générales pour la sélection, l'entraînement et le contrôle des sujets qualifiés et sujets sensoriels experts (ISO 8586:2012, Version corrigée 2014-06-15)

Sensorische Analyse - Allgemeiner Leitfaden für die Auswahl, Schulung und Überprüfung ausgewählter Prüfer und Sensoriker (ISO 8586:2012, korrigierte Fassung 2014-06-15)

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Foreword

The text of ISO 8586:2012, Corrected version 2014-06-15 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 "Food products" of the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 8586:2014.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by July 2014, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 2014.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 8586:2012, Corrected version 2014-06-15 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 8586:2014 without any modification.

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Introduction

A sensory analysis panel constitutes a true “measuring instrument”, and consequently the results of the analysis depends on its members.

The recruitment of persons willing to participate in a panel therefore needs to be carried out with care and to be considered as a real investment, both in time and money.

Sensory assessment can be performed by three types of assessors:

- sensory assessors;
- selected assessors;
- expert sensory assessors.

“Sensory assessors” are any people taking part in a sensory test. They can be “naive assessors” who do not have to meet any precise criterion, or “initiated assessors” who have already participated in sensory tests (see ISO 5492:2008, 1.5).

“Selected assessors” are chosen for their ability to perform a sensory test (see ISO 5492:2008, 1.6).

“Expert sensory assessors” are selected assessors with a demonstrated sensory sensitivity and with considerable training and experience in sensory testing, who are able to make consistent and repeatable sensory assessments of various products (see ISO 5492:2008, 1.8).

It is necessary to undertake a preliminary selection of the candidates at the recruitment stage, in order to eliminate those who would be unsuited for sensory analysis. However, the final selection can only be made after selection and training. The selection and training methods to be employed depend on the tasks to intend for the “selected assessors” and “expert sensory assessors”.

Sensory assessors work as a panel which is managed by a panel leader. In certain cases (especially for descriptive sensory analysis), the panel may be divided into specialized subgroups.

The recommended procedure involves:

- a) recruitment and preliminary screening of naive assessors;
- b) familiarization of naive assessors who are to become initiated assessors;
- c) selection of initiated assessors in order to determine their ability to perform particular tests, who then become selected assessors;
- d) possible training of selected assessors to become expert sensory assessors.

The exact procedures covered by a) and b) and the nature of the tests performed in c) and d) depend on the tasks intended for the panel.

Expert sensory assessors have demonstrated particular acuity and reproducibility in panel work, and have developed a good long-term sensory memory, allowing reliable comparative judgements, possibly in the absence of control samples.

The panel leader is responsible for the general monitoring of the group of expert sensory assessors and for their training. The expert sensory assessors are not responsible for the choice of tests used, the presentation of the samples or for the interpretation of results. These matters are the responsibility of the panel leader who also decides how much information is given to the panel.

The performance of selected assessors should be monitored regularly to ensure that the criteria by which they were initially selected continue to be met.

The entire process is illustrated in [Figure 1](#).

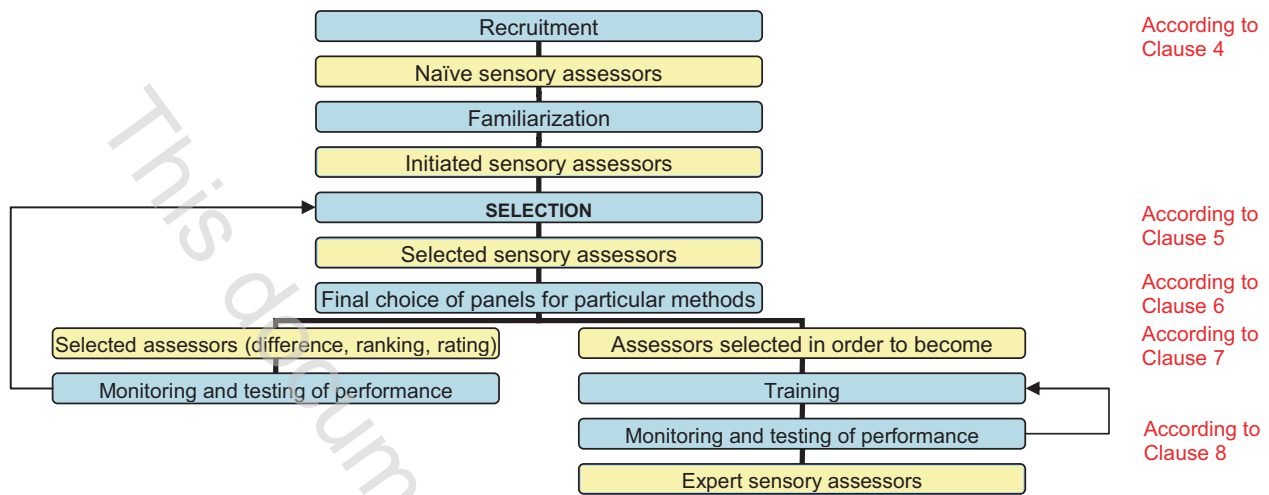


Figure 1 — Entire process

Sensory analysis — General guidelines for the selection, training and monitoring of selected assessors and expert sensory assessors

WARNING — This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies criteria for the selection and procedures for the training and monitoring of selected assessors and expert sensory assessors. It supplements the information given in ISO 6658.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 5492:2008, *Sensory analysis — Vocabulary*

ISO 6658, *Sensory analysis — Methodology — General guidance*

ISO 8589, *Sensory analysis — General guidance for the design of test rooms*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 5492 and the following apply.

3.1

repeatability

precision under repeatability conditions

Note 1 to entry: Repeatability can be expressed quantitatively in terms of the dispersion characteristics of the results.

[SOURCE: ISO 3534-2:2006, 3.3.5]

Note 2 to entry: Repeatability related to sensory analysis is defined as a measure of the agreement between assessments on the same sample under the same conditions. See [Table A.1](#).

3.2

repeatability conditions

observation conditions where independent test/measurement results are obtained with the same method on identical test/measurement items in the same test facility or measuring facility by the same operator using the same equipment within short intervals of time

Note 1 to entry: Repeatability conditions include:

- the same measurement procedure or test procedure;
- the same operator;
- the same measuring or test equipment used under the same conditions;