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Milk — Bacterial count — Protocol for the evaluation of alternative methods

*Lait — Dénombrement bactérien — Protocole pour l'évaluation des
méthodes alternatives*



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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Transformation of results	1
5 Attributes of the alternative method	2
5.1 Description of the method to be evaluated	2
5.2 Measuring range	2
5.3 Carry-over	3
5.4 Stability	5
5.5 Precision	5
6 The alternative method as an estimate of the reference method	6
6.1 Evaluation of factors affecting the estimation	6
6.2 Measurement protocol	7
6.3 Calculations	7
6.4 Attributes of the alternative method expressed in units of the reference method	10
7 Rating of the elaborated attributes	10
Annex A (informative) Expression of precision parameters	11
Bibliography	13

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 2.

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 document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 16297/IDF 161 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products* and the International Dairy Federation (IDF). It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF.

Foreword

IDF (the International Dairy Federation) is a non-profit organization representing the dairy sector worldwide. IDF membership comprises National Committees in every member country as well as regional dairy associations having signed a formal agreement on cooperation with IDF. All members of IDF have the right to be represented at the IDF Standing Committees carrying out the technical work. IDF collaborates with ISO in the development of standard methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products.

The main task of Standing Committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the Standing Committees are circulated to the National Committees for endorsement prior to publication as an International Standard. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 50 % of IDF National Committees casting a vote.

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ISO 16297|IDF 161 was prepared by the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products*. It is being published jointly by IDF and ISO.

All work was carried out by Joint ISO-IDF Project Group (S07) of the Standing Committee on *Statistics and automation* under the aegis of its project leader, Mrs. I. Andersson (SE).

This first edition of ISO 16297|IDF 161 cancels and replaces IDF 161A:1995, which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Any quantitative measurement in microbiology should consider that there is a requirement for the microbiological state in a sample to be regarded as one point within the co-ordinates of a multidimensional system, which is to be projected on to the one-dimensional scale of the method applied, i.e. plate count, flow cytometry. Aspects such as flora (types and numbers of microorganisms and their distribution), growth phase, sub-lethal damage, metabolic activity, and history, influence to a greater or lesser extent any parameter that is measured. It is evident that any projection of an n -dimensional situation on to an one-dimensional scale is bound to provide a picture of the real situation that is rather restricted. In this respect one has to bow to the inevitable, regardless of which method of measurement is preferred.

The term reference (or official or anchor) method in this International Standard means a method internationally recognized by experts, used in legislation or by agreement between the parties. There are requirements for evaluation of an alternative method to refer to the reference method and to be based on the examination of suitable samples for its intended use.

Milk — Bacterial count — Protocol for the evaluation of alternative methods

1 Scope

This International Standard gives guidelines for the evaluation of instrumental alternative methods for total bacterial count in raw milk from animals of different species.

NOTE The document is considered complementary to ISO 16140 and ISO 8196|IDF 128 (see Clause 2 and Reference [1]).

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 5725-1, *Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 1: General principles and definitions*

ISO 5725-2, *Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method*

ISO 8196-1|IDF 128-1, *Milk — Definition and evaluation of the overall accuracy of alternative methods of milk analysis — Part 1: Analytical attributes of alternative methods*

ISO 8196-2|IDF 128-2, *Milk — Definition and evaluation of the overall accuracy of alternative methods of milk analysis — Part 2: Calibration and quality control in the dairy laboratory*

ISO 16140-1, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Method validation — Part 1: Vocabulary*

ISO 16140-2, *Microbiology of food and animal feed — Method validation — Part 2: Protocol for the validation of alternative (proprietary) methods against a reference method*

ISO 21187|IDF 196:2004, *Milk — Quantitative determination of bacteriological quality — Guidance for establishing and verifying a conversion relationship between routine method results and anchor method results*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 8196-1|IDF 128-1 and ISO 8196-2|IDF 128-2 apply.

For the definitions of precision, repeatability and reproducibility, see ISO 5725-1, ISO 5725-2, ISO 8196-1|IDF 128-1, and ISO 16140-1.

4 Transformation of results

A prerequisite for statistics most common in the evaluation of measuring methods is the approximation of a normal distribution of the data. The exponential multiplication of microorganisms usually leads to a right-tailed distribution of quantitative microbiological parameters. Thus, in general, transformation of the raw data is necessary for approximation of normality. This is usually a common logarithmic transformation or a square root transformation for low bacteria levels. The most appropriate transformation can be checked by comparing histograms. All statistics are then computed from the