

Water quality - General requirements and guidance for
microbiological examinations by culture (ISO
8199:2018)

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN ISO 8199:2018 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN ISO 8199:2018 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN ISO 8199:2018 consists of the English text of the European standard EN ISO 8199:2018.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 07.11.2018.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 07.11.2018.
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ICS 07.100.20

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English Version

**Water quality - General requirements and guidance for
microbiological examinations by culture (ISO 8199:2018)**

Qualité de l'eau - Exigences et lignes directrices
générales pour les examens microbiologiques sur
milieu de culture (ISO 8199:2018)

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Allgemeine Anforderungen und
Anleitung für mikrobiologische Untersuchungen
mittels Kulturverfahren (ISO 8199:2018)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 6 September 2018.

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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 8199:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147 "Water quality" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 230 "Water analysis" 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2019.

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 ISO 8199:2007.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 8199:2018 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 8199:2018 without any modification.

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Microbiological methods*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 8199:2005), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared with the previous edition are as follows.

- Clauses have been added for terms and definitions, detection (qualitative) methods, performance characteristics and analytical quality control (AQC).
- The clauses referencing culture media and diluent preparation and QC have been revised to align with ISO 11133 and have been included in a new [Annex D](#).
- The subclause on general guidance for the calculation of results for solid media techniques has been updated to reflect the changes in ISO 7218:2007/Amd.1:2013^[2] on which the relevant clauses and subclauses in the second edition were based. Modifications have been made, however, to take account of water microbiology techniques (e.g. membrane filtration) and to allow for dilutions other than ten-fold dilutions.
- [Annex B](#) has been added to give guidance on confidence intervals when calculating special cases, relating to the update of the subclause on general guidance for the calculation of results for solid media techniques.
- [Annex C](#) has been added to describe calculations when using duplicate dishes per dilution, relating to the update of the subclause on general guidance for the calculation of results for solid media techniques.
- The subclause relating to enumeration using liquid media had been expanded and includes additional guidance on the use of MPN calculators. The former [Annex B](#) containing MPN tables has been removed.
- The title of this document has been amended to reflect these changes.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

Techniques for the detection and enumeration of microorganisms based on their ability to grow on or in specified culture media are an important and widely used means of assessing the microbiological quality of water. The purpose of this document is to gather in a single document the information common to the various techniques. This reduces repetition of technical details in individual standards and facilitates choice of the technique most suitable for a particular situation. Other guidance has been included on general topics of relevance to these techniques, such as analytical quality control, method performance characteristics and uncertainty of test results.

Water quality — General requirements and guidance for microbiological examinations by culture

WARNING — Persons using this document should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. 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.

IMPORTANT — It is absolutely essential that tests conducted according to this document be carried out by suitably trained staff.

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and gives guidance for performing the manipulations common to each culture technique for the microbiological examination of water, particularly the preparation of samples, culture media, and general apparatus and glassware, unless otherwise required in the specific standard. It also describes the various techniques available for detection and enumeration by culture and the criteria for determining which technique is appropriate.

This document is mainly intended for examinations for bacteria, yeasts and moulds, but some aspects are also applicable to bacteriophages, viruses and parasites. It excludes techniques not based on culturing microorganisms, such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) methods.

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.

ISO 7704, *Water quality — Evaluation of membrane filters used for microbiological analyses*

ISO 11133, *Microbiology of food, animal feed and water — Preparation, production, storage and performance testing of culture media*

ISO 19458, *Water quality — Sampling for microbiological analysis*

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

3.1

accuracy

closeness of agreement between a test result and the accepted reference value

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-8:1993, 1, modified — The note has been deleted.]