

<b>STN</b>	<b>Kvalita vody Návod na analýzu mezozooplanktónu z morských a brackých vôd</b>	<b>STN EN 17204</b>
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Water quality - Guidance on analysis of mesozooplankton from marine and brackish waters

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This standard includes the English version of the European Standard.

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**Water quality - Guidance on analysis of mesozooplankton  
from marine and brackish waters**

Qualité de l'eau - Document d'orientation sur l'analyse  
du mészooplancton dans les eaux marines et  
saumâtres

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Anleitung zur Analyse von  
Zooplankton aus marin und brackigen Gewässern

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 11 February 2019.

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**EN 17204:2019 (E)****European foreword**

This document (EN 17204:2019) has been prepared by 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2019.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.

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## Introduction

**WARNING — Person using this European Standard should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This standard 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 health and safety practices and to ensure compliance with any national and international regulatory conditions.**

Mesozooplankton constitute an important part of zooplankton in the pelagic food webs, since these are the organisms representing the link between primary producers and higher trophic levels. Mesozooplankton community structure and productivity can be affected by changes in phytoplankton stocks, species/size composition and phenology. Further, alterations in mesozooplankton can influence prey availability for zooplanktivores and, thus, fish stock recruitment, as well as sedimentation of the primary production, which, in turn, may affect food supply to benthic animals and oxygen levels in the bottom water. [11].

Mesozooplankton comprise a large number of species within a range of total lengths of about 0,2 mm to 20 mm. The main groups are rotifers (Rotatoria), crustacean holozooplankton and merozooplanktonic larvae of other taxa such as echinoderms, bivalves and crustaceans. Small hydromedusae, ctenophores, chaetognaths, appendicularians, doliolids, fish eggs and larvae are also considered as part of the mesozooplanktonic fauna in marine waters. As most protozooplankton species are smaller than 0,2 mm these are not considered part of the mesozooplankton and hence procedures for sampling and enumeration of these species are not included in this standard.

For sampling, preservation and storage of mesozooplankton see EN 17218:2019

**EN 17204:2019 (E)****1 Scope**

This document specifies a procedure for analysing mesozooplankton in marine and brackish waters. The procedure comprises how to identify and enumerate mesozooplankton to estimate quantitative information on diversity, abundance and biomass with regard to spatial distribution and long-term temporal trends for a given body of water.

**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.

EN 17218:2019, *Water quality — Guidance for the sampling of mesozooplankton from marine and brackish waters using mesh*

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