

# Vonkajšie ovzdušie Odber vzoriek a analýza peľových zŕn a spór vzdušných húb vo vzduchu na účely zberu údajov o alergénoch Objemová metóda podľa Hirsta

STN EN 16868

83 5810

Ambient air - Sampling and analysis of airbone pollen grains and fungal spores for networks related to allergy - Volumetric Hirst method

Táto norma obsahuje anglickú verziu európskej normy. This standard includes the English version of the European Standard.

Táto norma bola oznámená vo Vestníku ÚNMS SR č. 10/19

Obsahuje: EN 16868:2019

Oznámením tejto normy sa ruší STN P CEN/TS 16868 (83 5810) z apríla 2016 STN EN 16868: 2019

# EUROPEAN STANDARD NORME EUROPÉENNE EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 16868

May 2019

ICS 13.040.20

Supersedes CEN/TS 16868:2015

#### **English Version**

# Ambient air - Sampling and analysis of airborne pollen grains and fungal spores for networks related to allergy - Volumetric Hirst method

Air ambiant - Échantillonnage et analyse des grains de pollen en suspension dans l'air et des spores fongiques pour les réseaux relatifs à l'allergie - Méthode volumétrique de Hirst Außenluft - Probenahme und Analyse luftgetragener Pollen und Pilzsporen für Allergienetzwerke -Volumetrische Hirst-Methode

This European Standard was corrected and reissued by the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre on 12 June 2019.

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 8 March 2019.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

<b>Contents</b>		Page	
Europ	uropean foreword4		
Introduction		5	
1	Scope	6	
2	Normative references		
3	Terms and definitions		
4	Principle		
5	Sampling		
5.1	Equipment		
5.1.1	Apparatus		
5.1.2	Sampling support		
5.1.3	Installation conditions	16	
5.2	Operating procedure	16	
5.2.1	Preparation of the coating medium	16	
5.2.2	Support preparation	17	
5.2.3	Changing of the drum	18	
6	Analysis	18	
6.1	Equipment	18	
6.2	Operating procedure	19	
6.2.1	Support	19	
6.2.2	Mounting medium	19	
6.3	Methodology for counting	19	
6.3.1	Glass slide preparation for microscopy analysis for drum tapetape		
6.3.2	Optical microscopy		
6.3.3	Identification	22	
6.3.4	Counting method		
6.3.5	Data recording		
6.3.6	Conversion factor		
7	Performance characteristics for pollen and fungal spores counts		
7.1	General		
7.2	Integrated uncertainty assessment		
7.3	Uncertainty from counting error and counting routine		
7.4	Measurement uncertainty relating to sampling efficiency	24	
7.5	Measurement uncertainty relating to capture film, adhesive and specimen preparation	24	
7.6	Measurement uncertainty relating to time discrimination		
	Measurement uncertainty related to the detection limit		
7.7			
7.8	Measurement uncertainty in relation to the calibration of the flow rate		
7.9	Measurement uncertainty relating to spatial representativity		
8	Quality assurance		
8.1	General		
8.2	Measurement site/trap		
8.2.1	Control		
8.2.2	Characterization of the site and its ambient conditions (passport of sampling site)	25	

# EN 16868:2019 (E)

8.2.3	Spatial representativityAnalyst	26
8.3	Analyst	26
8.4	Intra- and interlaboratory quality assessments	26
8.4.1	General	26
8.4.2	GeneralRepeatability	26
8.4.3	Reproducibility and accuracy	26
	Sensitivity and specificity	
8.5	Network monitoring management	27
Annex	A (informative) Hirst type volumetric trap	28
Annex	B (informative) Pictures of impaction support	29
Annex	C (informative) Material Safety Data Sheets	31
Annex	D (informative) Identification key	32
Bibliog	graphy	37

## **European foreword**

This document (EN 16868:2019) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 264 "Air quality", 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 November 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 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 CEN/TS 16868:2015.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- a) the title has been changed;
- b) modifications have been made to the Introduction, the Scope and Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6;
- c) new paragraphs have been added to Clauses 7 and 8;
- d) modifications have been made to all Annexes;
- e) Figures D.2 and D.3 have been modified;
- f) the Bibliography has been readjusted;
- g) editorial changes have been made.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

#### Introduction

Biological particles (pollen and fungal spores) are present in the air, causing health impacts at various levels. In Europe, a lot of people suffer from pollinosis due to pollen and/or fungal spores (EFA, European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients Association, 2017). Pollen grains and fungal spores are considered in some Member States as an air pollutant as well as particles suspended in the air ( $PM_{10,2,5}$ ). In Europe, European Aerobiology Society (EAS) in coordination with International Association for Aerobiology (IAA) manage the methodology of sampling, analysis, quality control, development and information.

Persons and institutions involved in pollen forecasting have a scientific and public health responsibility. A pollen forecast is a guideline for allergen avoidance with a direct influence on pollen allergy sufferers and their behaviour. Pollen allergy sufferers are in need of such information since pollen allergy affects their quality of life and pollen and spores are an abundant, environmental allergen. The health state of pollen allergy sufferers should never be risked due to inadequate forecasts, financial interests or deficient working routines applied in the fundamental work such as pollen data evaluation and all involved processes (maintenance of the device, preparation, evaluation, handling and processing of data).

Further pollen data should be included in therapy (immunotherapy at least for one year) to objectify the benefit of the personal therapy.

For the sampling and analysis of biological particles different methodology and operating procedures are used.

Information on airborne pollen and spore concentration (counts and analyses) plays an important role in aerobiology, as well as in other disciplines and fields of application, such as biodiversity, agriculture, forestry, phytopathology, meteorology, climatology, paleo-ecology/-climatology, forensic science, bioterrorism and health (sensitization and allergy). The method described in this European Standard is aimed for the purposes of networks related to allergy. Besides, it may also be useful for other applications mentioned above.

### 1 Scope

This document specifies the procedure to sample continuously and to analyse the concentration of airborne pollen grains and fungal spores in ambient air using the volumetric Hirst type sampler [1] [2] [3] (see Annex A) or an even equivalent method assuring comparable data.

This document describes both the sampling and the analysis procedures for the purpose of networks related to allergy. For the other tasks mentioned in the introduction, other specifications may be required.

#### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

koniec náhľadu – text ďalej pokračuje v platenej verzii STN