

Organické, organicko-minerálne a anorganické hnojivá Stanovenie *Enterococaceae*

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Organic, organo-mineral and inorganic fertilizers - Detection of Enterocococaceae

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

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Organic, organo-mineral and inorganic fertilizers - Detection of *Enterocococaceae*

Engrais organiques, organo-minéraux et inorganiques - Recherche des *Enterocoaceae*

Organische, organisch-mineralische und anorganische Düngemittel - Nachweis von *Enterococcaceae*

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 17804:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 260 "Fertilizers and liming materials", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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Introduction

This methodology has been developed to detect and enumerate *Enterococcaceae* in organic, organomineral and inorganic fertilizers in order to be able to control certain hygienic requirements in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1].

Enterococcaea in the sense of this document include several species of the genus *Enterococcus* (3.7, 3.8) with a faecal origin. Consequently, it can be used as an indicator of faecal contamination. It can also be used to monitor the effectiveness of pasteurization or disinfection treatments. Compared to *E.coli*, they have a higher tenacity and can therefore better reflect the behaviour of all pathogens in fertilizers.

Because of the large variety of fertilizers, this method is not appropriate in every detail for certain products. In this case, different methods which are specific to these products can be used if absolutely necessary for justified technical reasons. Nevertheless, every attempt should be made to apply this method as far as possible.

Mineral components in fertilizers can have a negative impact on the survivability of microorganisms when they go into solution. In addition to an unfavourable shift in the pH value, the products can have a strong osmotic effect or be toxic to cells themselves (e.g. copper). Therefore, it can be necessary to test the inhibitory effect of the fertilizers to be investigated in a pre-test.

The method is validated in an interlaboratory study for the following products (*Enterococcaceae* were investigated in both native and spiked test material):

Table 1 — Product groups and matrices for which the methods described in this method are applicable and tested in a validation trial

Product group	matrix	
Organic fertilizers	to be determined at an international ring trial	
Organo-mineral fertilizers	to be determined at an international ring trial	
Inorganic fertilizers	to be determined at an international ring trial	

International ring trials will be conducted on the basis of this document.

1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the detection and enumeration of *Enterococcaceae* in fertilizers of the following Product Function Categories (PFCs) of EU fertilizing products, as described in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1]:

- PFC 1(A): Organic fertilizer;
- PFC 1(B): Organo-mineral fertilizer;
- PFC 1(C): Inorganic fertilizer, which contains more than 1 % by mass of organic carbon, other than organic carbon from chelating or complexing agents, nitrification inhibitors, denitrification inhibitors or urease inhibitors, coating agents, urea or calcium cyanamide. The present method was validated on products known as present on the market in April 2021 and conform to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [1] that are inorganic fertilizers with more than 1 % of organic carbon such as poultry manure and struvite with low level of organic matter. In case that other products would be developed having other physical and chemical characteristics, it might become necessary to develop different methods to correctly account for pathogens they might contain.

This document specifies a colony-count technique on selective media, Slanetz Bartley agar or Bile Esculin Azide agar, respectively. The method is based on EN ISO 7899-2:2000.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

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