

STN	Rastlinné biostimulátory Stanovenie <i>Rhizobium</i> spp.	STN EN 17718 46 5619
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Plant biostimulants - Determination of *Rhizobium* spp.

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. 02/25

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English Version

Plant biostimulants - Determination of *Rhizobium* spp.Biostimulants des végétaux - Détermination de
Rhizobium spp.Pflanzen-Biostimulanzien - Bestimmung von
Rhizobium spp.

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 26 August 2024.

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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.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

EN 17718:2024 (E)

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European foreword

This document (EN 17718:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 455 “Plant Biostimulants”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2025.

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 17718:2022.

EN 17718:2024 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to CEN/TS 17718:2022:

- the European foreword has been updated;
- the Introduction has been updated;
- the Bibliography has been re-numbered;
- in Annex A, Buffered Peptone Water has been added as diluent for the enumeration;
- in 4.5 a general description of the colonies of the different genera has been included;
- in Clause A.5, the recipe of Phosphate Buffered Saline has been modified;
- Annex ZA has been added.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

For the relationship with EU Legislation, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

EN 17718:2024 (E)**Introduction**

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) was requested by the European Commission (EC) to draft European Standards or European Standardization deliverables to support the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of 5 June 2019 [1] laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products (“FPR” or “Fertilising Products Regulation”).

This standardization request, presented as SR M/564 and relevant amendments, also contributes to the Communication on “Innovating for Sustainable Growth: A Bio economy for Europe”. The interest in plant biostimulants has increased significantly in Europe as a valuable tool to use in agriculture. Standardization was identified as having an important role in order to promote the use of biostimulants. The work of CEN/TC 455 seeks to improve the reliability of the supply chain, thereby improving the confidence of farmers, industry, and consumers in biostimulants, and will promote and support commercialisation of the European biostimulant industry.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and of the Council [1], only *Rhizobium* spp. is required.

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 and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

IMPORTANT — It is absolutely essential that tests conducted in accordance with this document be carried out by suitably trained staff.

1 Scope

This document provides the methodology for the enumeration and determination of *Rhizobiaceae* (*Rhizobium* spp., *Mesorhizobium* spp., *Ensifer* spp., *Bradyrhizobium* spp.).

This document is applicable to the blends of fertilizing products where a blend is a mix of at least two of the following component EU fertilising products categories: Fertilizers, Liming Materials, Soil Improvers, Growing Media, Plant Biostimulants and where the following category Plant Biostimulants is the highest percentage in the blend by mass or volume, or in the case of liquid form by dry mass. If Plant Biostimulants is not the highest percentage in the blend, the European Standard for the highest percentage of the blend applies. In case a blend of fertilizing products is composed of components in equal quantity or in case the component EU fertilising products used for the blend have identical formulations¹, the user decides which standard to apply.

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 17702-1:2024, *Plant biostimulants — Sampling and sample preparation — Part 1: Sampling*

EN 17724:2024, *Plant biostimulants — Terminology*

EN ISO 11133:2014², *Microbiology of food, animal feed and water — Preparation, production, storage and performance testing of culture media (ISO 11133:2014)*

koniec náhľadu – text ďalej pokračuje v platenej verzii STN

¹ An example of such a blend is a product with 2 claimed functions consisting of a non-microbial plant biostimulant and an organic fertiliser composed of 1 kg/kg of plant biostimulant from seaweed.

² As impacted by EN ISO 11133:2014/A1:2018 and EN ISO 11133:2014/A2:2020.