

STN	Rastlinné biostimulátory Stanovenie enterokokov	STN EN 17720 46 5621
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Plant biostimulants - Determination of enterococci

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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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 17720

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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English Version

Plant biostimulants - Determination of enterococciBiostimulants des végétaux - Détermination des
enterococciPflanzen-Biostimulanzien - Bestimmung von
enterococci

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

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.

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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 17720:2024 (E)

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European foreword

This document (EN 17720:2024) 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2025.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 17720:2022.

EN 17720:2024 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to CEN/TS 17720:2022:

- the title;
- the European foreword and Introduction have been updated for consistency with other standards;
- the Scope has been reworded for clarification;
- the normative references have been updated;
- in Clause 3 the definitions of presumptive enterococci and enterococci have been revised;
- in Clause 7 and Clause 8 the sampling and sample preparation instructions have been replaced by the relevant normative references;
- in Clause 9, the procedure has been clarified and references to the media and apparatus required have been added.
- Annex A and Annex B have been revised for consistency with other standards.
- Annex ZA has been added in line with the clarified Scope of the method.

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 relationship with EU Directive(s) / Regulation(s), 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 17720:2024 (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.

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 specifies a method for the enumeration of enterococci in microbial and non-microbial plant biostimulants. This document specifies a colony-count technique on a selective medium (Slanetz-Bartley agar) with confirmation on Bile Esculin Azide agar.

This document is applicable to all formulations of microbial and non-microbial plant biostimulants in liquid or solid form. This document is not applicable to other fertilizing products.

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 % in the blend by mass or volume, or in the case of liquid form by dry mass. If Plant Biostimulants is not the highest % in the blend, the European Standard for the highest % 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 ISO 7218:2024, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — General requirements and guidance for microbiological examinations*

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

EN 17708:2024, *Plant biostimulants — Preparation of sample for microbial analysis*

EN 17714:2024, *Plant biostimulants — Determination of microorganisms concentration*

EN 17724:2024, *Plant biostimulants — Terminology*

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 fertilizer composed of 1kg/kg of plant biostimulant from seaweed.