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## **Soil quality — Inhibition of reproduction of Collembola (*Folsomia candida*) by soil contaminants**

*Qualité du sol — Inhibition de la reproduction de Collembola (*Folsomia candida*) par des contaminants du sol*



Reference number  
ISO 11267:2014(E)

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 190, *Soil quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Biological methods*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11267:1999), which has been technically revised.

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## Introduction

Ecotoxicological test systems are applied to obtain information about the effects of contaminants in soil and are proposed to complement conventional chemical analysis (see [2] and [4]). Reference [2] includes a list and short characterization of recommended and standardized test systems and [4] gives guidance on the choice and evaluation of the bioassays. Aquatic test systems with soil eluate are applied to obtain information about the fraction of contaminants potentially reaching the groundwater by the water path (retention function of soils), whereas terrestrial test systems are used to assess the habitat function of soils.

Soil-dwelling Collembola are ecologically relevant species for ecotoxicological testing. Springtails are prey animals for a variety of endogeic and epigeic invertebrates and they contribute to decomposition processes in soils. In acidic soils they may be the most important soil invertebrates besides enchytraeids with respect to that function, since earthworms are typically absent.[19] Additionally, Collembola represent arthropod species with a different route and a different rate of exposure compared to earthworms[1] and enchytraeids.[3] Various species were used in bioassays of which four species were used most commonly, *Folsomia candida*, *Folsomia fimetaria*, *Onychiurus armatus*, and *Orchesella cincta*. [20] Numerous soil toxicity tests supported by Environment Canada (EC) resulted in the development and standardization of a biological test method for determining the lethal and sublethal toxicity of samples of contaminated soil to Collembola.[10] The method prepared by EC includes three species, *Orthonychiurus folsomi*, *Folsomia candida*, and *Folsomia fimetaria*. As standardized test systems using Collembola as indicator organisms for the habitat function of soil, another two methods exist. One is designed for assessing the effects of substances on the reproductive output of the Collembola, *Folsomia fimetaria* L. and *Folsomia candida* Willem in soil,[19],[21], and the other method described here, focuses on testing contaminated soil. Optionally the method can be used for testing substances added to standard soils (e.g. artificial soil) for their sublethal hazard potential to Collembola.

This International Standard describes a method that is based on the determination of sublethal effects of contaminated soils to adult Collembola of the species *Folsomia candida* Willem. The species is distributed worldwide. It plays a similar ecological role to *Folsomia fimetaria*. [10],[19] *Folsomia candida* reproduces parthenogenetically and is an easily accessible species as it is commercially available and easy to culture. *Folsomia candida* is considered to be a representative of soil arthropods and Collembola in particular. Background information on the ecology of springtails and their use in ecotoxicological testing is available.[22]