

Second edition  
2017-05

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**Microbiology of the food chain —  
Horizontal method for the detection  
and enumeration of *Listeria*  
*monocytogenes* and of *Listeria* spp. —**

**Part 2:  
Enumeration method**

*Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire — Méthode horizontale pour  
la recherche et le dénombrement de *Listeria monocytogenes* et de  
*Listeria* spp. —*

*Partie 2: Méthode de dénombrement*



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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)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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 World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 275, *Food analysis — Horizontal methods*, in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Microbiology*, in accordance with the agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11290-2:1998), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the amendment ISO 11290-2:1998/Amd.1:2004.

The main changes, compared to ISO 11290-2:1998, are the following.

- The enumeration of *Listeria monocytogenes* has been modified as listed below.
- Primary suspension with buffered peptone water, half-Fraser broth with or without supplements, and all appropriate diluents referred to in ISO 6887 (all parts).
- Resuscitation step deleted.
- Microscopic aspect, catalase and CAMP test for confirmation are optional.
- Inclusion of new performance characteristics.
- Moreover, enumeration of *Listeria* spp. has been included in the scope and the title changed accordingly.

A list of parts in the ISO 11290 series can be found on the ISO website.

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## Introduction

The main changes, listed in the foreword, introduced in this document compared to ISO 11290-2:1998 are considered as major (see ISO 17468<sup>[28]</sup>). The technical changes were assessed and were considered to have no significant effect on the method performance characteristics or test results.

Because of the large variety of food and feed products, this horizontal method may not be appropriate in every detail for certain products for which it may be necessary to use different or specific methods. Nevertheless, in all cases, this horizontal method is intended to be applied as far as possible and deviations from this only be made for justified technical reasons.

When this document is next reviewed, account will be taken of all information then available regarding the extent to which this horizontal method has been followed and the reasons for deviations from it in the case of particular products.

The harmonization of test methods cannot be immediate, and for certain groups of products International Standards and/or national standards may already exist that do not comply with this horizontal method. It is hoped that when such standards are reviewed they will be changed to comply with this document so that eventually the only remaining departures from this horizontal method will be those necessary for well-established technical reasons.