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**Microbiology of the food chain —
Horizontal method for the
enumeration of beta-glucuronidase-
positive *Escherichia coli* —**

Part 3:

**Detection and most probable number
technique using 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-
indolyl- β -D-glucuronide**

*Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire — Méthode horizontale pour
le dénombrement des Escherichia coli bêta-glucuronidase positive —*

*Partie 3: Recherche et technique du nombre le plus probable utilisant
le bromo-5-chloro-4-indolyl-3 β -D-glucuronate*



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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).

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).

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 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 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Microbiology*.

This first edition cancels and replaces ISO/TS 16649-3:2005, which has been technically revised.

ISO 16649 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Microbiology of the food chain — Horizontal method for the enumeration of β -glucuronidase positive Escherichia coli*:

- *Part 1: Colony-count technique at 44 °C using membranes and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-glucuronide*
- *Part 2: Colony-count technique at 44 °C using 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-glucuronide*
- *Part 3: Detection and most probable number technique using 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-glucuronide*

This corrected version of ISO 16649-3:2015 incorporates the following corrections:

- in [4.1.4](#), first line, "(22 \pm 2) h" has been replaced with "(21 \pm 3) h";
- in [4.2.5](#), first line, "(22 \pm 2) h" has been replaced with "(21 \pm 3) h";
- [Table 1](#) has been replaced;
- [Table 2](#) has been replaced;
- in [9.1.4](#), first line, "(22 \pm 2) h" has been replaced with "(21 \pm 3) h";
- in [9.2.5](#), first line, "(22 \pm 2) h" has been replaced with "(21 \pm 3) h";
- in [9.2.5](#), second line, "three" has been replaced with "six".

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Introduction

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

When this part of ISO 16649 is next reviewed, account will be taken of all information available regarding the extent to which this horizontal method has been followed and the reasons for deviations from this method 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 might 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 part of ISO 16649 so that eventually, the only remaining departures will be those necessary for well-established technical reasons.