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Third edition
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Cereals and cereal products — Common wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) — Determination of Alveograph properties of dough at constant hydration from commercial or test flours and test milling methodology

*Céréales et produits céréaliers — Blé tendre (*Triticum aestivum* L.) — Détermination des propriétés alvéographiques d'une pâte à hydratation constante de farine industrielle ou d'essai et méthodologie pour la mouture d'essai*



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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 document 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).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Cereals and pulses*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 338, *Cereal and cereal products*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 27971:2015), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the oldest instruments (before AlveoNG) have been removed;
- the latest instruments (AlveoPC and Alveolab) have been added.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The end-use value of wheat is determined by a number of properties that are useful in the manufacture of baked products such as bread, rusks and biscuits.

Such properties include the important viscoelastic (rheological) properties of dough formed as a result of flour hydration and kneading. An Alveograph is used to study the main parameters by subjecting a dough test piece to biaxial extension (producing a dough bubble) by inflating it with air, which is similar to the deformation to which it is subjected during bread dough fermentation.

Recording the pressure generated inside the bubble throughout the deformation of the dough test piece until it ruptures provides information on the following:

- a) The resistance of the dough to deformation, or its stiffness. It is expressed by the maximum pressure parameter, P .
- b) The extensibility or the possibility of inflating the dough to form a bubble. It is expressed by the mean of the abscissa value at rupture, L , converted to the swelling index, G .
- c) The elasticity of the dough during biaxial extension. It is expressed by the elasticity index, I_e .
- d) The work required to deform the dough bubble until it ruptures, or its strength, which is proportional to the area of the Alveogram (sum of the pressures throughout the deformation process). It is expressed by the parameter, W .

The P/L ratio is a measurement of the balance between stiffness and extensibility.

Alveographs are commonly used throughout the wheat and flour industry, for the following purposes:

- selecting and assessing different varieties of wheat and marketing batches of wheat;
- blending different batches of wheat or flour to produce a batch with given values for the Alveographic criteria (W , P , and L) complying with the proportional laws of blending;
- assessing the proteolytic activity in wheat or flour to detect possible contamination (see [Annex H](#) for more details).

Alveographs are used both on the upstream side of the industry for marketing, selecting and assessing the different wheat varieties and on the downstream side throughout the baking industries (see References [\[9\]](#), [\[11\]](#), [\[12\]](#) and [\[13\]](#)).