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# Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Horizontal method for the enumeration of coagulase-positive staphylococci (*Staphylococcus aureus* and other species) —

## Part 3: Detection and MPN technique for low numbers

*Microbiologie des aliments — Méthode horizontale pour le dénombrement des staphylocoques à coagulase positive (Staphylococcus aureus et autres espèces) —*

*Partie 3: Recherche et méthode NPP pour les faibles nombres*



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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 6888-3 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Microbiology*.

ISO 6888 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Horizontal method for the enumeration of coagulase-positive staphylococci (Staphylococcus aureus and other species)*:

- *Part 1: Technique using Baird-Parker agar medium*
- *Part 2: Technique using rabbit plasma fibrinogen agar medium*
- *Part 3: Detection and MPN technique for low numbers*

This corrected version of ISO 6888-3:2003 incorporates the following correction:

### **Subclause 9.1.1**

The second paragraph has been amended to resolve any ambiguity.

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## Introduction

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

When this part of ISO 6888 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 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 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 part of ISO 6888 so that eventually the only remaining departures from this horizontal method will be those necessary for well-established technical reasons.