



BSI Standards Publication

## Foodstuffs — Determination of trace elements

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Part 1: Determination of total mercury in foodstuffs by atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) — cold vapour technique after pressure digestion

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 13806-1:2025. Together with BS EN 13806-2:2025 and BS EN 13806-3:2025, it supersedes BS EN 13806:2002, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee AW/275, Food analysis - Horizontal methods.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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English Version

**Foodstuffs - Determination of trace elements - Part 1:  
Determination of total mercury in foodstuffs by atomic  
absorption spectrometry (AAS) - cold vapour technique  
after pressure digestion**

Produits alimentaires - Dosage des éléments-traces -  
Partie 1 : Dosage du mercure total dans les produits  
alimentaires par spectrométrie d'absorption atomique  
(SAA) - Génération de vapeurs froides après digestion  
sous pression

Lebensmittel - Bestimmung von Elementspuren - Teil  
1: Bestimmung des Gesamtquecksilbers in  
Lebensmitteln durch Atomabsorptionsspektrometrie  
(AAS) - Kaltdampftechnik nach Druckaufschluss

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 17 February 2025.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 13806-1:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 275 “Food analysis – Horizontal methods”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2025.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN-CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 13806:2002.

This document includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 13806:2002:

- the document has been split up into three separate parts: EN 13806-1 covering the AAS-cold-vapour technique, EN 13806-2 the AFS-cold-vapour technique and EN 13806-3 the solid sample AAS technique;
- full technical revision to bring the technical realization up to date with the latest technology;
- stabilization of the digest solution;
- update of statistical data by new interlaboratory study.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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## **Introduction**

This document has been developed in parallel with EN 13806-2 [1] and EN 13806-3 [2]. All three methods were validated in parallel in interlaboratory studies with the same scope. They are statistically compatible in performances. This allows the users of these documents to employ the most appropriate/available method depending on the purpose of their studies. The statistical parameters of these standards are presented in the respective documents.