

Animal feeding stuffs — Isolation and enumeration of *Enterococcus* (*E.* *faecium*) spp.

ICS 65.120

National foreword

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**Animal feeding stuffs - Isolation and enumeration of
Enterococcus (*E. faecium*) spp.**

Aliments des animaux - Isolement et dénombrement de
l'Entérocoque (*E. faecium*) spp.

Futtermittel - Keimzählung von Enterococcus spp. (*E.*
faecium)

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Foreword

This document (EN 15788:2009) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 327 “Animal feeding stuffs”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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Introduction

This methodology has been developed to enumerate enterococci (*E. faecium*) to enable the European Commission to control proper labelling of animal feeding products (EU project SMT4-CT98-2235 - "Methods for the official control of probiotics (microorganisms) used as animal feeds") [1]. The method is based on an extensive screening of 12 pre-selected, commercially available media for the detection and enumeration of enterococci. The described methodology was validated in an interlaboratory study [2].

This method is not selective for probiotic enterococci (*E. faecium*) but can be applied to enumerate enterococci in additives, premixtures and feeding stuffs assuming that the probiotic enterococci (*E. faecium*) is present in far higher numbers than any other enterococci.