

Sensory analysis — General guidance for the design of test rooms

ICS 67.240

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 8589:2010+A1:2014. It is identical to ISO 8589:2007, incorporating amendment 1:2014. It supersedes BS ISO 8589:2010, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee AW/12, Sensory analysis.

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

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English Version

Sensory analysis - General guidance for the design of test rooms (ISO 8589:2007)

Analyse sensorielle - Directives générales pour la conception de locaux destinés à l'analyse (ISO 8589:2007)

Sensorische Analyse - Allgemeiner Leitfaden für die Gestaltung von Prüfräumen (ISO 8589:2007)

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Foreword

The text of ISO 8589:2007 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 "Food products" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 8589:2010.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 8589:2007 has been approved by CEN as a EN ISO 8589:2010 without any modification.

Foreword to amendment A1

This document (EN ISO 8589:2010/A1:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 "Food Products".

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Sensory analysis — General guidance for the design of test rooms

1 Scope

This International Standard provides general guidance for the design of test rooms intended for the sensory analysis of products.

It describes the requirements to set up a test room comprising a testing area, a preparation area, and an office, specifying those that are essential or those that are merely desirable.

This International Standard is not specific for any product or test type.

NOTE The test space can be similar for food and non-food products that are evaluated using sensory methods. However, the test rooms might need to be adapted for each specialized use. Modifications to the design are often needed for specific products and for specific types of testing. This is particularly true if the test rooms are to be used for the evaluation of non-food products.

Although many of the general principles are similar, this International Standard does not address test facilities for the specialized examination of products in inspection or in-plant quality-control applications.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 5492, *Sensory analysis — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 5492 apply.

4 Principle

The test rooms are designed

- to conduct sensory evaluations under known and controlled conditions with a minimum of distractions, and
- to reduce the effects that psychological factors and physical conditions can have on human judgement.

5 Creation of test rooms

The creation of test rooms intended for sensory analysis differs, depending on whether a new building or an existing facility is used.

A typical test facility comprises the following:

- a testing area in which work may be carried out individually in testing booths or in groups;
- a preparation area;
- an office;
- a cloakroom and toilets;
- a storage room for supplies;
- a storage room for samples;
- a waiting room for assessors.

The minimum requirements are

- a testing area in which work may be carried out individually in testing booths or in groups, and
- a preparation area.

The test room should be easily accessible to the assessors and should not be located in an area where there is a heavy traffic flow (for example, near a cafeteria), unless arrangements have been made to reduce noise and distraction. Reasonable arrangements should also be made for accessibility to the area by those with physical disabilities.

An area for assessors to gather or wait prior to entering the panel room is desirable. The organization of the areas should be easily accessible for cleaning and should allow for good conditions of hygiene.

See the examples of test room layouts given in Annex A.

6 Testing area

6.1 General requirements

6.1.1 Location

The testing area should be located near the preparation area. The areas should be close enough to each other to facilitate sample presentation, but the areas should be separate to reduce interference, such as from odour and noise. (See also 7.1.)

The assessors shall not enter or leave the testing area through the preparation area, as this could result in bias in the test results.