

Water quality — Detection and enumeration of bacteriophages —

Part 4: Enumeration of bacteriophages infecting *Bacteriodes fragilis*

ICS 07.100.20

National foreword

This British Standard reproduces verbatim ISO 10705-4:2001 and implements it as the UK national standard.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee EH/3, Water quality, to Subcommittee EH/3/4, Microbiological methods, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international/European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

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

Cross-references

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, the ISO title page, pages ii to iv, pages 1 to 19 and a back cover.

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Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 4 November 2003

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 10705-4

First edition
2001-12-15

Water quality — Detection and enumeration of bacteriophages —

Part 4:

Enumeration of bacteriophages infecting *Bacteroides fragilis*

Qualité de l'eau — Détection et dénombrement des bactériophages —

Partie 4: Dénombrement des bactériophages infectant Bacteroides fragilis



Reference number
ISO 10705-4:2001(E)

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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 3.

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 part of ISO 10705 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 10705-4 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Microbiological methods*.

ISO 10705 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Water quality — Detection and enumeration of bacteriophages*:

- *Part 1: Enumeration of F-specific RNA bacteriophages*
- *Part 2: Enumeration of somatic coliphages*
- *Part 3: Validation of methods for concentration of bacteriophages from water*
- *Part 4: Enumeration of bacteriophages infecting Bacteroides fragilis*

Annexes A, B, C and D of this part of ISO 10705 are for information only.

Water quality — Detection and enumeration of bacteriophages —

Part 4:

Enumeration of bacteriophages infecting *Bacteroides fragilis*

1 Scope

This part of ISO 10705 specifies a method for the detection and enumeration of bacteriophages infecting *Bacteroides fragilis* by incubating the sample with an appropriate host-strain. The method is applicable to all kinds of water, sediments and sludge extracts, where necessary after dilution. In the case of low phage numbers, a pre-concentration step may be necessary for which a separate International Standard has been developed. The method is also applicable to shellfish extracts.

NOTE It is desirable for International Standards to be adopted as widely as possible. This part of ISO 10705 includes reference to alternative procedures which obviate the need for expensive materials or equipment which may not be readily available in developing countries. Use of these alternatives will not affect the performance of this method.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 10705. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 10705 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 5667-1, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 1: Guidance on the design of sampling programmes*

ISO 5667-2, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 2: Guidance on sampling techniques*

ISO 5667-3, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 3: Guidance on the preservation and handling of samples*

ISO 6887-1, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — Preparation of test samples, initial suspension and decimal dilutions for microbiological examination — Part 1: General rules for the preparation of the initial suspension and decimal dilutions*

ISO 8199, *Water quality — General guide to the enumeration of micro-organisms by culture*

3 Term and definition

For the purposes of this part of ISO 10705, the following term and definition applies.

3.1

bacteriophage infecting *Bacteroides fragilis*

bacterial virus which is capable of infecting selected *Bacteroides fragilis* host strains by attachment to the bacterial cell wall as the first step of the infectious process

NOTE 1 Such bacteriophages produce visible plaques (clearance zones) in a confluent lawn of host bacteria grown under appropriate culture conditions.

NOTE 2 A general description of bacteriophages infecting *B. fragilis* is given in annex A.

4 Safety precautions

The host strain used in this part of ISO 10705 is non-pathogenic to man and animals and should be handled in accordance with the normal (national or international) safety procedures for bacteriological laboratories. Bacteriophages infecting *Bacteroides fragilis* are non-pathogenic for man and animals, but some types are very resistant to drying. Appropriate precautions shall be taken to prevent cross-contamination of test materials, particularly when examining or handling cultures of high titre or when inoculating cultures of the host strains. Such procedures shall be carried out in a biohazard cabinet or a separate area of the laboratory. Chloroform is a carcinogenic substance. Observe relevant safety precautions or use an alternative method of equal efficacy.

It is recommended that personnel using this method have or acquire some experience in handling anaerobic bacteria.

5 Principle

The sample is mixed with a small volume of semi-solid nutrient medium. A culture of host-strain is added and plated on a solid nutrient medium. After this, incubation and reading of plaques take place. The results are expressed as the number of plaque-forming particles (also named plaque-forming units, pfu) per unit of volume (pfp/ml, pfp/l, etc.).

6 Reagents

6.1 Basic materials.

Use ingredients of uniform quality and chemicals of analytical grade for the preparation of culture media and reagents and follow the instructions given in annex B. For information on storage see ISO 8199, except where indicated in this part of ISO 10705. Alternatively, use dehydrated complete media and follow strictly the manufacturer's instructions.

Other grades of chemicals may be used provided they can be shown to lead to the same results.

6.2 Water, for the preparation of media, glass-distilled or deionized, free from substances which might inhibit bacterial growth under the conditions of the test, and complying with ISO 3696.

6.3 Diluent, for making sample dilution, such as peptone-saline solution or another diluent complying with ISO 6887-1.

7 Apparatus

Apart from apparatus supplied sterile, sterilize any glassware and other equipment in accordance with ISO 8199.

Usual sterile, microbiological laboratory equipment and glassware or disposable plastics-ware in accordance with ISO 8199 and including the following:

7.1 Hot-air oven, for dry-heat sterilization, and an **autoclave**.

7.2 Incubator or **water bath**, thermostatically maintained at $(36 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$.

7.3 Incubator or **water bath**, thermostatically maintained at $(36 \pm 2) ^\circ\text{C}$ with a shaking device.

7.4 Water bath or **heating block**, thermostatically maintained at $(45 \pm 1) ^\circ\text{C}$.

7.5 Water bath or **equivalent device**, for melting of agar media.

7.6 pH meter, and **pH paper**.