
Živila - Določevanje toksinov T-2 in HT-2 v žitu in žitnih proizvodih za dojenčke in majhne otroke z LC-MS/MS po čiščenju s SPE

Foodstuffs - Determination of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products for infants and young children by LC-MS/MS after SPE cleanup

Lebensmittel - Bestimmung von T-2-Toxin und HT-2-Toxin in Getreide und Säuglings- und Kleinkindernahrung auf Getreidebasis mit LC-MS/MS nach SPE-Reinigung

Produits alimentaires - Dosage des toxines T-2 et HT-2 dans les céréales et les produits céréaliers pour nourrissons et enfants en bas âge par CL-SM/SM après purification par SPE

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ICS:

67.060	Žita, stročnice in proizvodi iz njih	Cereals, pulses and derived products
67.230	Predpakirana in pripravljena hrana	Prepackaged and prepared foods

SIST EN 16923:2017**en,fr,de**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

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This European Standard was approved by CEN on 27 February 2017.

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European foreword

This document (EN 16923:2017) 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by November 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 2017.

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EN 16923:2017 (E)

Introduction

The mycotoxin T-2 toxin and its metabolite HT-2 toxin belong to the group of trichothecenes which are produced by various *Fusarium* species. Cereals like maize, wheat, barley, oats, and rye are most likely to be affected.

WARNING 1 — Suitable precaution and protection measures need to be taken when carrying out working steps with harmful chemicals. The latest version of the hazardous substances ordinance, Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 [3], should be taken into account as well as appropriate National statements e.g. such as in [4].

WARNING 2 — The use of this document can involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. This document does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

WARNING 3 — T-2 toxin and its metabolite HT-2 toxin are known to have carcinogenic effects.

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1 Scope

This European Standard describes a method for the determination of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal based products e.g. oats, intended for nutrition of infants and young children by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) coupled with tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) after cleanup by solid phase extraction (SPE) [5].

The method has been validated for HT-2 toxin in oat flour at levels of 9,3 µg/kg and 28,1 µg/kg, oat flakes at levels of 16,5 µg/kg and 21,4 µg/kg, and breakfast cereals (containing oat flakes) at a level of 8,1 µg/kg and for T-2 toxin in oat flour at levels of 4,4 µg/kg and 8,3 µg/kg, oat flakes at levels of 4,9 µg/kg and 6,6 µg/kg and breakfast cereals (containing oat flakes) at a level of 3,5 µg/kg.

Laboratory experiences [6] have shown that the method is also applicable to highly swelling materials (dry cereal based porridges and modified starches), but these were not examined in the method validation study. Details are outlined in 6.3.

The method can also be applied to oat-by-products at higher levels of T-2- and HT-2 toxin. In this case, the dilution steps need to be considered [6].

The method can also be applied to cereals and cereal products for infants and young children based on e.g. wheat, barley, and rice. In this case, the method needs to be in-house-validated for each material. At the time of the interlaboratory study, planned range was 10 µg/kg to 100 µg/kg, and it is known from the pre-study that the method works well in the whole range, although final validation was only done in the range from 3,5 µg/kg to 28,1 µg/kg.

2 Normative references

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

EN ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use - Specification and test methods (ISO 3696)*

3 Principle

T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin are extracted with acetonitrile-water mixture and by shaking manually or with a laboratory blender. A solid phase extraction column or a pass through column is used to clean up and concentrate the filtered and diluted extract, see also [7]. The toxins are determined by HPLC coupled with tandem mass spectrometry.

4 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and water complying with grade 1 of EN ISO 3696, unless otherwise specified. Solvents shall be of quality for HPLC analysis, unless otherwise specified.

4.1 Acetonitrile, HPLC grade.

4.2 Methanol, HPLC grade.

4.3 Solvent mixture.

Mix 20 parts of acetonitrile (4.1) and 80 parts of water (20+80, v+v).

4.4 Extraction mixture.

Mix 84 parts of acetonitrile (4.1) and 16 parts of water (84+16, v+v).

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4.5 Eluent for LC-MS/MS.

Examples of eluents suitable for LC-MS/MS systems are given in Annex B. Filter the solution through a membrane filter (5.18).

4.6 **Nitrogen**, purity of at least 99,9 %.

4.7 **Activated charcoal for column chromatography** (particle size: 63 µm to 200 µm).

4.8 **Aluminium oxide** (neutral, for liquid chromatography).

4.9 **Finely ground/pulverized diatomaceous earth (diatomite, kieselgur)**, e.g. Celite® 545.

4.10 **Siliconization reagent, e.g. SurfaSil™¹⁾** (optional).

4.11 **Cyclohexane, analytical quality**, (optional).

4.12 **Preparation of the diluted siliconization reagent**, (optional).

Add e.g. 50 ml of a siliconization reagent (4.10) to 950 ml cyclohexane (4.11).

4.13 **Formic acid**, HPLC quality.

4.14 **Ammonia solution**, substance concentration $c(\text{NH}_3) = 13,4 \text{ mol/l}$ or mass concentration $\rho(\text{NH}_3) = 250 \text{ g/l}$.

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4.15 **Ammonium acetate ($\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{NH}_4$)**, LC-MS/MS quality.

4.16 **Anti-clogging material**, such as washed sea sand, glass beads, or polyethylene beads, (optional).

4.17 **Stock solution of T-2 toxin**, mass concentration $\rho = 100 \text{ µg/ml}$, in acetonitrile.

4.18 **Stock solution of HT-2 toxin**, $\rho = 100 \text{ µg/ml}$, in acetonitrile.

4.19 **Internal standard solution of [$^{13}\text{C}_{24}$]-T-2 toxin**, $\rho = 25 \text{ µg/ml}$, in acetonitrile.

Other suitable isotopic labelled standards of T-2 toxin than the [$^{13}\text{C}_{24}$]-T-2 toxin may be used.

4.20 **Internal standard solution of [$^{13}\text{C}_{22}$]-HT-2 toxin**, $\rho = 25 \text{ µg/ml}$, in acetonitrile.

Other suitable isotopic labelled standards of HT-2 toxin than the [$^{13}\text{C}_{22}$]-HT-2 toxin may be used.

4.21 **Mixed standard solution**, $\rho = 500 \text{ ng/ml}$.

Pipette 25 µl of each T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin stock solution (4.17 and 4.18), respectively, into a 5 ml volumetric flask, and dilute up to the mark with solvent mixture (4.3).

This solution can be stored at -18 °C for 12 months.

1) Surfasil™ is a trade name of a product commercially available from various suppliers. This information is given for the convenience of users of this European Standard and does not constitute an endorsement by CEN of the products named. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

4.22 Mixed internal standard solution, $\rho = 1000$ ng/ml

Dilute 200 μ l of the internal standard solutions (4.19 and 4.20) with solvent mixture (4.3) in a 5 ml volumetric flask.

This solution can be stored at -18 °C for 6 months.

4.23 Calibration solutions.

For the calibration of the measuring system, prepare calibration solutions within a range from 5 ng/ml to 100 ng/ml.

Prepare e.g. the following calibration solutions as outlined in Table 1:

Table 1 — Examples of suitable calibration solutions

Calibration solution	Mass concentration per analyte ng/ml	Mass concentration per isotope labelled analyte ng/ml	Mixed standard solution (4.21) μ l	Mixed internal standard solution (4.22) μ l	Solvent mixture (4.3) μ l
IS-Blank	0	50	–	50	950
1	5	50	10	50	940
2	10	50	20	50	930
3	20	50	40	50	910
4	40	50	80	50	870
5	60	50	120	50	830
6	80	50	160	50	790
7	100	50	200	50	750

5 Apparatus and equipment

Usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

- 5.1 **Laboratory balance**, accuracy of 0,01 g.
- 5.2 **Analytical balance**, accuracy of 0,1 mg.
- 5.3 **Ultrasonic bath**.
- 5.4 **Laboratory shaker for test tubes**.
- 5.5 **Manual dispensers, microlitre syringes or microlitre pipettes** for 10 μ l to 5 ml.
- 5.6 **Dispenser**, suitable for 20 ml.
- 5.7 **250 ml-Erlenmeyer flasks with stoppers, or 250 ml-centrifuge tubes**.

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5.8 Syringe filters (0,45 µm), or centrifugal filters (e.g. Durapore[®] PVDF (0,45 µm), or Millipore Ultrafree-MC[®] 0,5 ml), fitting with centrifuge for reaction vessels, e.g. Eppendorf[®] vessels²⁾.

5.9 Folded filter, pore size 4 µm to 7 µm, diameter 100 mm.

5.10 Laboratory centrifuge.

5.11 Cartridges (6 ml), made from polypropylene (PP) and corresponding frits from polyethylene (PE), or commercially available SPE columns, e.g. CHROMABOND[®] Carbon/Alox/Celite^{®2)}, 6 ml, 500 mg.

5.12 SPE vacuum/elution station.

5.13 Laboratory shaker, e.g. overhead shaker.

5.14 Laboratory blender, e.g. Ultra Turrax^{®2)}.

5.15 Test tubes, suitable for a volume up to 10,0 ml.

5.16 Siliconized test tubes (optional).

After thorough cleaning of the test tubes (5.15), fill up to the top with the diluted siliconization reagent (4.12) and allow them to stand for 1 min. Then, pouring out the reagent solution, make sure to collect it for repeated usage. Afterwards rinse the tubes with cyclohexane (4.11) and acetonitrile (4.1) or methanol (4.2) successively in this order. The rinsing solutions may be used again. Finally rinse the tubes twice with double-distilled water and allow them to dry.

WARNING — Surfasil^{™2)} being a chloride silane solvent, readily reacts with water by forming hydrochloric acid vapour. Therefore never rinse tubes with water directly after derivatization.

Tubes that are not siliconized, such as made from polypropylene, may be used, if formally proved suitable.

5.17 Concentration evaporator workstation, e.g. TurboVap^{®2)} Zymark, or similar.

5.18 Membrane filters for aqueous solutions (pore size 0,45 µm).

5.19 LC-MS/MS system with the following components:

5.19.1 HPLC pump.

5.19.2 Injection system.

5.19.3 HPLC column, e.g. octadecylsilane (ODS), that ensures base line separation to distinguish peaks of the T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin from all other signals, 150 mm length, 2,00 mm inner diameter, particle size 5 µm, suitable reversed-phase pre-column.

2) Durapore[®] PVDF, Millipore Ultrafree-MC[®], Ultra Turrax[®], TurboVap[®]LV Zymark and Surfasil are trade names of products commercially available from various suppliers. Eppendorf[®] vessel is an example of a product commercially available from Eppendorf, Chromabond[®] is the trade name of a product, commercially available from by Macherey-Nagel. This information is given for the convenience of users of this European Standard and does not constitute an endorsement by CEN of the products named. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

Columns of different dimensions may also be used.

5.19.4 Column thermostat.

5.19.5 Tandem mass spectrometer (MS/MS).

5.19.6 Data evaluation system.

6 Procedure

6.1 Preparation of the test sample

Grind and homogenize the sample to particle sizes less than 1 mm before analysis.

6.2 Preparation of the solid phase column

Mix 42 g of activated charcoal (4.7) with 30 g of neutral Al₂O₃ (4.8) and 18 g of *Celite 545* (4.9) in a glass vessel (500 ml) and homogenize with a shaker (5.13) for 1 h (ratio 7:5:3 activated charcoal/neutral Al₂O₃/Celite 545; m/m/m). Place the homogenized mixture, 0,5 g respectively, in empty 6 ml cartridges provided with three PE frits (2 frits below, and one on top for covering).

Alternatively, commercially available SPE-columns may be used. For this reason, clean up procedure shall be checked for recovery and shall be optimized if necessary. [7]

6.3 Extraction of T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin

Weigh 25,0 g of the homogenized and finely ground sample (6.1) with an accuracy of 0,1 g into a 250 ml beaker/Erlenmeyer flask, or into a 250 ml centrifuge tube (5.7), add 100 ml of the extraction mixture (4.4) and close the vessel. Shake the mixture manually or with a shaker (5.13) for 1 h at room temperature.

Alternatively, use a laboratory blender (5.14) for extraction. In this case, homogenize the mixture for 3 min at a great speed.

After extraction, pass slightly more than 10 ml extract through a folded filter (5.9) into a glass vessel. Centrifuge this portion at 2 500 × *g* at room temperature for 10 min, Remove 10 ml of the upper solution of the centrifugate.

If highly swelling food matrices are analysed, increase the water content in the extraction medium up to 200 % or alternatively reduce the weight of the sample amount down to 50 % of the described amount. To prevent clogging of the swelling material, add the same amount of e.g. sea sand (4.16) as the sample weight.

Take volume and/or weight adjustments into account in the final calculation.

6.4 Clean-up by solid phase filtration

Plug the prepared column containing 0,5 g of activated charcoal/Al₂O₃/Celite (6.2) on the SPE station (5.12), and place a test tube (5.15) beneath to collect the eluate. Pass 5,0 ml of the extract (6.3) through the SPE-column and collect the eluate. Apply a low vacuum in order to obtain an elution speed of 1 drop to 2 drops per s. Rinse the cartridge again with 5 ml of extraction mixture (4.4), and collect that eluate also.

Add 25 µl of mixed internal standard solution (4.22) to the combined eluates, and evaporate to dryness with nitrogen (4.6) using a concentration evaporator workstation (at 45 °C for 30 min, and 10 psi gas pressure).

Re-dissolve the residue in 500 µl of solvent mixture (4.3) by shaking turbulently (5.4) for 60 s, and, if necessary, apply an ultrasonic bath (5.3) for 5 min at room temperature. The solution should be filtered