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**Mleko, mlečni proizvodi, hrana za dojenčke in prehranska dopolnila za odrasle -  
Določevanje mineralov in elementov v sledovih - Atomska emisijska  
spektrometrija z induktivno sklopljeno plazmo (ICP-AES) (ISO 15151:2018)**

Milk, milk products, infant formula and adult nutritionals - Determination of minerals and trace elements - Inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) method (ISO 15151:2018)

Milch, Milcherzeugnisse, Säuglingsnahrung und Nahrungsergänzungsmittel für Erwachsene - Bestimmung von Mineralien und Spurenelementen - Verfahren mit induktiv gekoppelter Plasma-Atomemissionsspektrometrie (ICP-AES) (ISO 15151:2018)

Lait, produits laitiers, formules infantiles et produits nutritionnels pour adultes - Détermination de la teneur en minéraux et en oligo-éléments - Méthode par spectrométrie d'émission atomique avec plasma induit par haute fréquence (ICP-AES) (ISO 15151:2018)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN ISO 15151**

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**ICS:**

67.100.10	Mleko in predelani mlečni proizvodi	Milk and processed milk products
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**oSIST prEN ISO 15151:2020****en**



# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO  
15151

IDF 229

First edition  
2018-11

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## Milk, milk products, infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of minerals and trace elements — Inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) method

*Lait, produits laitiers, formules infantiles et produits nutritionnels  
pour adultes — Détermination de la teneur en minéraux et en oligo-  
éléments — Méthode par spectrométrie d'émission atomique avec  
plasma induit par haute fréquence (ICP-AES)*

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<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/627ae575-3de5-4ad1-ac70-08c45573bc78/sist-en-iso-15151-2020>



Reference numbers  
ISO 15151:2018(E)  
IDF 229:2018(E)

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ISO 15151:2018(E)  
IDF 229:2018(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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**ISO 15151:2018(E)**  
**IDF 229:2018(E)**

## 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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products* and the International Dairy Federation (IDF), in collaboration with AOAC INTERNATIONAL.

It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF and separately by AOAC INTERNATIONAL. The method described in this document is equivalent to the AOAC Official Method 2011.14: *Minerals and Trace Elements in Infant Formula*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

**IDF (the International Dairy Federation)** is a non-profit private sector organization representing the interests of various stakeholders in dairying at the global level. IDF members are organized in National Committees, which are national associations composed of representatives of dairy-related national interest groups including dairy farmers, dairy processing industry, dairy suppliers, academics and governments/food control authorities.

ISO and IDF collaborate closely on all matters of standardization relating to methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products. Since 2001, ISO and IDF jointly publish their International Standards using the logos and reference numbers of both organizations.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. IDF shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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This document was prepared by the IDF Standing Committee on Analytical Methods for Composition and ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products*, in collaboration with AOAC INTERNATIONAL.

It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF and separately by AOAC INTERNATIONAL. The method described in this document is equivalent to the AOAC Official Method 2011.14: *Minerals and Trace Elements in Infant Formula*. All work was carried out by the ISO/IDF Action Team on C17 of the Standing Committee on Analytical Methods for Composition under the aegis of its project leader, Mr H. Crujisen (NL).

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# Milk, milk products, infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of minerals and trace elements — Inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) method

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the quantitative determination of calcium (Ca), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), sodium (Na) and zinc (Zn) using inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES). The method is applicable for milk, dried milk, butter, cheese, whey, dried whey, infant formula and adult nutritional formula in the ranges given in [Table 1](#).

**Table 1 — Analytical ranges**

	Ca	Cu	Fe	Mg	Mn	P	K	Na	Zn
Lower analytical range <sup>a</sup> , in mg/100 g	20	0,03	0,5	3	0,01	15	10	10	0,2
Upper analytical range <sup>a</sup> , in mg/100 g	1 280	1,2	20	110	1,0	800	2 000	850	18

<sup>a</sup> concentrations apply to

- milk and “ready-to-feed” liquids as-is, using a typical sample size of 4 g per final analytical solution volume of 25 ml and
- reconstituted milk powder, infant formula powders and adult nutritional powders (25 g into 200 g of water), using a typical sample size of mass of the reconstituted slurry per final analytical solution volume of 25 ml.

Ranges for non-reconstituted dairy ingredients (butter, cheese, whey powders, whey protein concentrates) are adjusted proportionally upward from these values based upon the sample size used for the ingredient. For example, if 0,6 g of cheese is digested the ranges will be 4 g/0,6 g = 6,7 × higher.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 648, *Laboratory glassware — Single-volume pipettes*

ISO 1042, *Laboratory glassware — One-mark volumetric flasks*

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

## 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

## 4 Principle

The organic matter is decomposed by wet digestion using nitric acid in a pressurized microwave assisted wet digestion system or any other appropriate instrumentation for wet digestion and diluted. An internal standard is used. The test and calibration solutions are atomized into plasma of an inductively coupled plasma spectrometer and the emission is measured at appropriate wavelengths using external calibration.

## 5 Reagents

**WARNING — The use of this document can involve hazardous materials, operations and reagents. This document does not propose to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to establish safety and health practices.**

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade, unless otherwise specified.

**5.1 Water**, complying with ISO 3696, grade 2, unless otherwise stated.

**5.2 Nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>)**, concentrated, with a mass fraction of 65 %.

**5.3 Nitric acid solution (HNO<sub>3</sub>)**, 10 % volume fraction. Add one part of HNO<sub>3</sub> (5.2) to seven parts of water and mix.

**5.4 Element stock solutions of Ca, P, K** (each of mass concentration  $\rho = 10\,000$  mg/l) and Cu, Fe, Mg, Mn, Na, Zn (each of  $\rho = 1\,000$  mg/l).

Use a suitable element stock solution, preferably a certified one. Both single-element stock solutions and multi-element stock solutions with an adequate specification, stating the acid used (mostly being nitric acid) and the preparation technique, are commercially available. Do not use the element stock solution after the expiry date.

**5.5 Standard solutions.**

### 5.5.1 General

Depending on the scope, different multi-element standard solutions can be necessary. In general, when combining multi-element standard solutions, their chemical compatibility and possible hydrolysis of the components shall be taken into account. The examples given below also consider the measuring range of various ICP-AES instruments and the expected concentration of the elements in milk and milk products.

The multi-element standard solutions are considered stable for several months if stored in the dark (observe the expiry date specified by the manufacturer). Other combinations of elements at different concentrations may be used, provided that the element stock solutions (5.4) are diluted with the same acid with a similar concentration that is used for the test solution so as to prepare a range of standards that covers the concentration of the elements to be determined.

Store the standard working solutions in a high-density polyethylene bottle (6.6) so as to avoid any contamination.

**5.5.2 Standard working solution of Fe**,  $\rho = 400$  mg/l

Pipette 20,0 ml of Fe stock solution (5.4) into a 50 ml volumetric flask. Dilute with water to the 50 ml mark. Transfer the standard working solution to a suitable storage bottle (6.6).

**5.5.3 Standard working solution of Cu, Mn and Zn,  $\rho = 50 \text{ mg Cu, 50 mg Mn and 200 mg Zn/l}$** 

Pipette 5,00 ml of Cu, 5,00 ml of Mn and 20,0 ml Zn of the concerned element stock solution (5.4) into a 100 ml volumetric flask. Dilute with water to the 100 ml mark. Transfer the standard working solution to a suitable storage bottle (6.6).

**5.6 Internal standard solution**, for example, yttrium, indium or strontium,  $\rho = 1\,000 \text{ mg/l}$ .**5.7  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$** , with a volume fraction of 30 %.**6 Apparatus**

Clean all glassware and plasticware, including the microwave digestion vessels, thoroughly with the nitric acid solution (5.3), rinse three times with water (5.1) and allow to dry. Store the clean glassware and plasticware in a dust-free environment to ensure they are free of any contamination when used.

Usual laboratory apparatus, and in particular, the following.

**6.1 Analytical balance**, capable of weighing to the nearest 1 mg, with a readability of 0,1 mg.**6.2 One-mark volumetric flasks**, of different nominal capacity, Class A in accordance with ISO 1042.**6.3 One-mark pipettes**, of different nominal capacity, complying with the requirements of ISO 648.**6.4 Micropipettes**, capable of adjusting to between 0,100 ml and 1,000 ml and to between 1 ml and 5 ml, with plastic pipette tips.**6.5 Dispenser**, capable of dispensing between 1 ml and 10 ml.**6.6 High-density polyethylene bottles**, for storing the standard and sample solutions.**6.7 Pressurized microwave assisted wet digestion system**, with operator selectable output of between 0 W and 1 800 W microwave power; provided with temperature and pressure controllers and an air cooling device, equipped with appropriate vessels of capacity 75 ml, commercially available or equivalent.**6.8 ICP-AES instrument.**

The instrument shall be equipped with radial plasma as a minimum requirement. Axial plasma is equally acceptable. Background correction shall also be performed when necessary. Settings of the working conditions [e.g. viewing height, gas flows, radio frequency (RF) or plasma power, sample uptake rate, integration time, number of replicates] shall be optimized according to the manufacturer's instructions.

**6.9 Water baths**, capable of maintaining a temperature of  $20\text{ °C} \pm 2\text{ °C}$  and  $40\text{ °C} \pm 2\text{ °C}$ .**6.10 Appropriate grinding device.****6.11 Sampler tubes.****6.12 Cyclonic spray chamber.****6.13 Concentric nebulizer.**