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**Kakovost vode - Določanje estrogenega potenciala vode in odpadne vode - 1. del:  
Presejalni preskus s kvasovkami (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)**

Water quality - Determination of the estrogenic potential of water and waste water - Part 1: Yeast estrogen screen (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Bestimmung des östrogenen Potentials von Wasser und Abwasser - Teil 1: Hefebasierter Östrogentest (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

Qualité de l'eau - Détermination du potentiel oestrogénique de l'eau et des eaux résiduaires - Partie 1: Essai d'oestrogénicité sur levures (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

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## Water quality - Determination of the estrogenic potential of water and waste water - Part 1: Yeast estrogen screen (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

Qualité de l'eau - Détermination du potentiel oestrogénique de l'eau et des eaux résiduaires - Partie 1: Essai d'oestrogénicité sur levures (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Bestimmung des estrogenen Potentials von Wasser und Abwasser - Teil 1: Hefe-Estrogenscreening (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (ISO 19040-1:2018)

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## European foreword

The text of ISO 19040-1:2018 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147 "Water quality" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 19040-1:2022 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 230 "Water analysis" 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by March 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by March 2023.

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**Water quality — Determination of  
the estrogenic potential of water and  
waste water —**

**Part 1:  
Yeast estrogen screen (*Saccharomyces  
cerevisiae*)**

*Qualité de l'eau — Détermination du potentiel oestrogénique de l'eau  
et des eaux résiduaires —*

*Partie 1: Essai d'oestrogénicité sur levures (*Saccharomyces  
cerevisiae*)* 19040-1:2023

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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.

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 on 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 the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Biological methods*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 19040 series can be found on the ISO website. [www.iso.org/iso/19040](http://www.iso.org/iso/19040)



# Water quality — Determination of the estrogenic potential of water and waste water —

## Part 1:

### Yeast estrogen screen (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*)

**WARNING** — Persons using this document should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices.

**IMPORTANT** — It is absolutely essential that tests conducted in accordance with this document be carried out by suitably trained staff.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the estrogenic potential of water and waste water by means of a reporter gene assay with genetically modified yeast strains *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. This reporter gene assay is based on the activation of the human estrogen receptor alpha.

This method is applicable to:

- fresh water;
- waste water;
- aqueous extracts and leachates;
- eluates of sediments (fresh water);
- pore water;
- aqueous solutions of single substances or of chemical mixtures;
- drinking water.

The limit of quantification (LOQ) of this method for the direct analysis of water samples is between 8 ng/l and 15 ng/l 17 $\beta$ -estradiol equivalents (EEQ) based on the results of the international interlaboratory trial (see [Annex F](#)). The upper threshold of the dynamic range for this test is between 120 ng/l and 160 ng/l 17 $\beta$ -estradiol equivalents (EEQ). Samples showing estrogenic potencies above this threshold have to be diluted for a valid quantification. Extraction and pre-concentration of water samples can prove necessary, if their estrogenic potential is below the given LOQ.

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

ISO 7027, *Water quality — Determination of turbidity*

## ISO 19040-1:2018(E)

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

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

**3.1**  
**blank replicate**  
 additional replicate that contains no test organism, but is treated in the same way as the other replicates of a sample

[SOURCE: ISO 10872:2010, 3.5]

**3.2**  
**culture medium**  
 nutrients presented in a form and phase (liquid or solidified) which support microbiological growth

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 24]

**3.3**  
**dilution level**  
*D*  
 denominator of the dilution coefficient (using the numerator 1) of a mixture of water or waste water with dilution water as integral number

Note 1 to entry: For undiluted water or waste water, this coefficient per definition is 1→1. The corresponding and smallest possible value of *D* is 1. In this document, the arrow indicates the transition from initial total volume to final total volume.

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 28]

**3.4**  
**dilution water**  
 water added to the test sample to prepare a series of defined dilutions

[SOURCE: ISO 20079:2005, 3.7]

**3.5**  
**50 % effect concentration**  
 $EC_{50}$   
 concentration of a compound which causes 50 % of an effect

Note 1 to entry: In the sense of this document, the  $EC_{50}$  is the concentration of a compound which induces 50 % of the maximal reporter gene activity which can be achieved by this compound.

**3.6**  
**field blank**  
 container prepared in the laboratory, using reagent water or other blank matrix, and sent with the sampling personnel for exposure to the sampling environment to verify possible contamination during sampling

[SOURCE: ISO 11074:2015, 4.5.3]

**3.7****induction rate**

quotient of the mean signal measured after exposure to a dose of the test sample or with a positive control, and the mean signal measured for the negative control using the same experimental conditions

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 43, modified — “corrected absorbance” replaces “mutant colonies”; “wells” replaces “corresponding plates”, “quotient” replaces “difference”.]

**3.8****inoculum**

fraction of a culture of microorganisms used to start a new culture, or an exponentially growing preculture, in fresh medium

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 44]

**3.9****limit of quantification****LOQ**

lowest value of a determinant that can be determined with an acceptable level of accuracy and precision

[SOURCE: ISO 15839:2003, 3.18]

**3.10****lowest ineffective dilution****LID**

lowest dilution within a test batch which does not show any effect, i.e. no statistically significant increase in the reporter gene activity compared with the negative control

[SOURCE: ISO 11350:2012, 3.4, modified — “increase in the reporter gene activity” replaces “increase in the number of revertant wells”.]

**3.11****negative control**

dilution water without test sample

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 51]

**3.12****overnight culture**

culture started late in the afternoon and incubated overnight to be ready during the following morning for purposes such as the inoculation of a preculture

Note 1 to entry: The procedure for the overnight culture is described in [9.2](#).

[SOURCE: ISO 6107-6:2004, 54, modified — deleted: “usually about 16 h”.]

**3.13****reference compound**

compound with one or more property values that are sufficiently reproducible and well established to enable the calibration of the measurement method

[SOURCE: ISO 7405:2008, 3.6, modified — “compound” replaces “material”; “the calibration of the measurement method” replaces “use of the material or substance for the calibration of an apparatus, the assessment of a measurement method or for the assignment of values to materials”.]

**3.14****reporter gene activity**

quantitative activity of a gene attached to the promoter sequence of another gene