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## **Cheese and processed cheese products, caseins and caseinates — Determination of fat content — Gravimetric method**

*Fromages et fromages fondus, caséines et caséinates —  
Détermination de la teneur en matière grasse — Méthode  
gravimétrique*

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## Forewords

**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 the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 302, *Milk and milk products - Methods of sampling and analysis*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement). It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF.

This first edition cancels and replaces ISO 1735 | IDF 5:2004 and ISO 5543 | IDF 127:2004, which have been merged and technically revised.

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.

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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 the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 302, *Milk and milk products - Methods of sampling and analysis*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement). It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF.

The work was carried out by the IDF/ISO Action Team (C34) of the *Standing Committee on Analytical Methods for Composition* under the aegis of its project leader, Mr Philippe Trossat (FR).

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# Cheese and processed cheese products, caseins and caseinates — Determination of fat content — Gravimetric method

**WARNING** — 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 safety and health practices and to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the fat content of all types of cheese and processed cheese products containing lactose of below 5 % (mass fraction) of non-fat solids, and all types of caseins and caseinates.

The method is not applicable to fresh cheese types containing, for example, fruits, syrup or muesli. For such products, the Schmid-Bondzynski-Ratzlaff (SBR) principle is not applicable due to high concentrations of sugars. For these products, the method using the Weibull-Berntrop principle (see ISO 8262-3 | IDF 124-3<sup>[4]</sup>) is appropriate.

## 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.

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/76e40fe5-1a8f-4a46-8b83-c1e24d0d9f6e/iso-565>  
ISO 565, *Test sieves — Metal wire cloth, perforated metal plate and electroformed sheet — Nominal sizes of openings*

ISO 3889 | IDF 219, *Milk and milk products — Specification of Mojonnier-type fat extraction flasks*

## 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 <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### fat content

mass fraction of substances determined by the procedure specified in this document

Note 1 to entry: The fat content is expressed as a percentage by mass.

## 4 Principle

A test portion is digested with hydrochloric acid, then ethanol is added. The acid-ethanolic solution is subsequently extracted with diethyl ether and light petroleum. The solvents are removed by

distillation or evaporation. The mass of the substances extracted, which are soluble in light petroleum, is determined.

NOTE This is usually known as the Schmid-Bondzynski-Ratzlaff principle.

## 5 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade, unless otherwise specified, and distilled or demineralized water or water of equivalent purity. The reagents shall leave no appreciable residue when the determination is carried out by the method specified (see [Annex A](#)).

**5.1 Concentrated hydrochloric acid**, containing a mass fraction of HCl of approximately 36 % ( $\rho_{20} = 1,18$  g/ml).

**5.2 Dilute hydrochloric acid**, containing a mass fraction of approximately 25 % ( $\rho_{20} = 1,125$  g/ml).

Dilute 675 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid ([5.1](#)) to 1 000 ml with water and mix, or use dilute hydrochloric acid if commercially available.

**5.3 Ethanol**, ( $C_2H_5OH$ ), at least 94 % (volume fraction), or ethanol denatured by methanol, containing a volume fraction of ethanol of at least 94 %, see [A.5](#).

Ethanol denatured otherwise than by methanol may be used provided that the denaturant does not affect the result of the determination (see [A.5](#)).

**5.4 Diethyl ether** ( $C_2H_5OC_2H_5$ ), free from peroxides (see [A.3](#)) and containing none or not more than 7 mg/kg of antioxidants (see [A.4](#)).

**5.5 Light petroleum**, with any boiling range between 30 °C and 60 °C or, as equivalent, pentane [ $CH_3(CH_2)_3CH_3$ ], with a boiling point of 36 °C.

**5.6 Mixed solvent**, prepared shortly before use by mixing equal volumes of diethyl ether ([5.4](#)) and light petroleum ([5.5](#)).

## 6 Apparatus

Usual laboratory equipment 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 Centrifuge**, capable of holding the fat-extraction flasks or tubes ([6.6](#) and [6.7](#)) and capable of producing a radial acceleration of around 80*g* to 90*g* at the outer end of the flasks or tubes.

NOTE The use of the centrifuge is optional but recommended (see [9.4.7](#)).

**6.3 Distillation or evaporation apparatus** to enable the solvents and ethanol to be distilled from the fat-collecting flasks or to be evaporated from beakers and dishes at a temperature not exceeding 100 °C.

**6.4 Drying oven**, electrically heated, with ventilation port(s) fully open, capable of being maintained at a temperature of 102 °C  $\pm$  2 °C throughout the working space. Alternatively, a **vacuum drying oven**, capable of being maintained at 72,5 °C  $\pm$  2,5 °C. A pressure less than 600 mbar (50 mmHg) may be used. The drying oven shall be fitted with a suitable thermometer.

**6.5 Boiling water bath or hot plate.**

**6.6 Mojonnier-type fat-extraction flasks**, as specified in ISO 3889 | IDF 219.

**6.7 Extraction tubes-type fat-extraction flasks.**

It is also possible to use fat-extraction tubes with siphon or wash-bottle fittings. For an example, see the model in [Figure B.1](#).

**6.8 Stoppers.**

The flasks or tubes ([6.6](#) and [6.7](#)) shall be provided with stoppers of different material, such as bark cork, silicone rubber, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or glass, unaffected by the reagents used. Bark corks shall be washed with the diethyl ether ([5.4](#)) and kept in water at 60 °C or more for at least 15 min. They shall then be allowed to cool in the water so that they are saturated when used.

**6.9 Rack**, to hold the fat-extraction flasks or tubes.

**6.10 Wash bottle**, suitable for use with the mixed solvent ([5.6](#)). A plastic wash bottle shall not be used.

**6.11 Fat-collecting vessels.**

For example:

- boiling flasks, flat-bottomed, of capacity 125 ml to 250 ml;
- conical flasks, of capacity 250 ml;
- metal dishes.

If metal dishes are used, they shall preferably be of stainless steel, be flat-bottomed, and have a diameter of 80 mm to 100 mm and a height of approximately 50 mm. Do not use aluminium dishes.

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**6.12 Boiling aids**, fat-free, of non-porous porcelain or silicon carbide, or glass beads. The use of glass beads is optional in the case of metal dishes.

**6.13 Measuring cylinders or dispensers**, of capacities 5 ml and 25 ml.

**6.14 Pipette or dispenser**, graduated, to deliver 10 ml.

**6.15 Tongs**, made of metal, capable of holding flasks, beakers or dishes.

**6.16 Sheets of cellulose film**, unlacquered, soluble in hydrochloric acid, of thickness 0,03 mm to 0,05 mm, of dimensions 50 mm × 75 mm approximately. The sheets shall be inert under the test conditions.

**6.17 Grinding or grating device**, for grinding or grating the laboratory sample if necessary. This device should be such that no undue heat will be developed and no loss of moisture occurs. A hammer mill shall not be used.

**6.18 Test sieve**, of woven wire cloth, diameter 200 mm, nominal size of opening 500 µm, with receiver, conforming to the requirements of ISO 565.

**6.19 Container with lid**, airtight, of capacity such that the test sample can be mixed by shaking.

**6.20 Beaker or flask**, of capacity of 100 ml.

## 7 Sampling

A representative sample should be sent to the laboratory. It should not be damaged or changed during transport or storage.

Sampling is not part of the method specified in this document. A recommended sampling method is given in ISO 707 | IDF 50<sup>[1]</sup>.

From the time of sampling to the time of commencing the procedure, the test samples shall be kept at a temperature of between 2 °C and 6 °C for cheese and at room temperature for casein and caseinates.

## 8 Preparation of test sample

### 8.1 Cheese

Prior to analysis, remove the rind, the smear or the mouldy surface layer of the cheese in such a way as to obtain a test sample representative of the cheese.

Grind or grate the test sample by using an appropriate grinding or grating device (6.17). Mix the ground mass quickly and, if necessary for semi-hard and hard cheeses, grind it a second time and again mix thoroughly.

For hard and semi-hard cheeses, previously to grind or grate, preferably cut into cubes of about 15 mm × 15 mm. Mix the cubes by shaking in a container and grind or grate the prepared sample as specified before.

Clean the device after preparing each sample.

If the test sample cannot be ground or grated, mix it thoroughly by intensive kneading, for example with a pestle in a mortar. Care should be taken to avoid moisture loss.

Store the test sample in an airtight container until commencing the analysis, which shall be carried out as soon as possible after grinding.

If, however, a delay is unavoidable, take all precautions to ensure proper preservation of the test sample. When refrigerated, bring the test sample to room temperature. Thoroughly mix the sample to obviate the well-documented transfer of moisture within the cheese that occurs during cooling and warming. Ensure that any condensation of moisture on the inside surface of the container is thoroughly and uniformly re-incorporated into the test sample. Do not examine ground cheese showing unwanted mould growth or signs of deterioration.

All sample preparation should be carried out in a manner which minimizes moisture loss. Such moisture loss will have the effect of increasing the apparent fat content.

### 8.2 Caseins and caseinates

Thoroughly mix the laboratory sample, if necessary, after transferring all of it to an airtight container of suitable capacity, by repeatedly shaking and inverting the container.

Transfer 50 g of the laboratory sample to the test sieve (6.18).

If it does not pass completely through the sieve, use the grinding device to achieve this condition. Immediately transfer all the sieved sample to the container (6.19) and mix thoroughly in the closed container. During these operations, take precautions to avoid any change in the water content of the product.

If the 50 g portion directly passes through the sieve, or nearly completely passes, use this test sample for the determination.

After the test sample has been prepared, proceed with the determination (see 9.4) as soon as possible.

## 9 Procedure

### 9.1 Test portion

Mix the test sample by gently stirring. Immediately weigh, to the nearest 1 mg, directly or by difference, 1 g to 3 g of test sample for cheese and 2 g to 3 g for caseins and caseinates into a fat-extraction flask (6.6 or 6.7), a 100 ml beaker or flask (6.20).

For cheeses having a mass fraction of fat of more than 30 %, adapt the mass of the test portion so as to obtain a mass of extracted fat of between 750 mg and 1 000 mg.

The test portion may also be weighed on a sheet of cellulose film (6.16), which is subsequently folded and introduced into the chosen vessel. For the Mojonnier type flask, deliver the test portion as completely as possible into the lower (small) bulb of the fat-extraction flask.

### 9.2 Blank test

Carry out a blank test simultaneously with the determination, using the same procedure and same reagents but omitting the test portion.

When a batch of test samples is analysed, the number of drying cycles may differ between different samples. If one blank sample is used for the entire batch, ensure that the blank value, used in the calculation of the fat content of any individual sample, was obtained under the same conditions as the individual test sample.

If the value obtained in the blank test regularly exceeds 1,0 mg, check the reagents if this has not been done recently (see A.1). Corrections for values of more than 2,5 mg in the blank test shall be reported in the test report (see A.2).

### 9.3 Preparation of a fat-collecting vessel

Dry a fat-collecting vessel (6.11) with a few boiling aids (6.12) in the drying oven (6.4) for at least 1 h.

NOTE Boiling aids are desirable to promote gentle boiling during the subsequent removal of solvent, especially in the case of glass vessels; their use is optional in the case of metal dishes.

Allow the fat-collecting vessel to cool (protected from dust) to the temperature of the weighing room (glass vessel for at least 1 h, metal dish for at least 30 min).

To avoid insufficient cooling or unduly long cooling times, the fat-collecting vessel should not be placed in a desiccator.

Use tongs to place the fat-collecting vessel on the balance to avoid, in particular, temperature variations. Weigh the fat-collecting vessel to the nearest 1 mg.

### 9.4 Determination

**9.4.1** Depending on the shape of the extraction apparatus and the size of the test portion, add 8 ml to 10 ml for cheese and 7,5 ml to 10 ml (6.14) for caseins and caseinates of dilute hydrochloric acid (5.2). Add the hydrochloric acid so as to wash the test portion and for Mojonnier type flask into the small bulb of the fat-extraction flask (6.6 or 6.7) or onto the bottom of the beaker or flask (6.20), and mix.

**9.4.2** Heat by gently moving the fat-extraction flask or vessel (to avoid charring) in a boiling water bath or on a hot plate (6.5), until all particles are completely dissolved.

**9.4.3** Allow the fat-extraction flask or vessel to stand for 20 min to 30 min in the boiling water bath (6.5) or keep it gently boiling on the hot plate (6.5) for 10 min. Cool under running water.