



International  
Standard

**ISO 10253**

**Water quality — Marine algal  
growth inhibition test with  
*Skeletonema* sp. and *Phaeodactylum  
tricornutum***

*Qualité de l'eau — Essai d'inhibition de la croissance des algues  
marines avec *Skeletonema* sp. et *Phaeodactylum tricornutum**

**Fourth edition  
2024-07**

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ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva  
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

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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 document 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)).

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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 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Biological methods*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 230, *Water analysis*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 10253:2016), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- in [Table 2](#),  $K_3PO_4$  has been substituted with  $K_2HPO_4$  in stock solution 3;
- [Annex D](#) has been added to describe the marine algal growth inhibition test with *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* applied in 24-well-microwell plates;
- in [Table A.1](#), dilution step 5 was changed to dilution step 6.

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).

# Water quality — Marine algal growth inhibition test with *Skeletonema* sp. and *Phaeodactylum tricornutum*

**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 according to this document be carried out by suitably qualified staff.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the inhibition of growth of the unicellular marine algae *Skeletonema* sp. and *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* by substances and mixtures contained in sea water or by environmental water samples (effluents, elutriates, etc.).

The method can be used for testing substances that are readily soluble in water and are not significantly degraded or eliminated in any other way from the test medium.

**NOTE** With modifications, as described in ISO 14442 and ISO 5667-16, the inhibitory effects of poorly soluble organic and inorganic materials, volatile compounds, metal compounds, effluents, marine water samples and elutriates of sediments can be tested.

## 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 5667-16, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 16: Guidance on biotesting of samples*

ISO 14442, *Water quality — Guidelines for algal growth inhibition tests with poorly soluble materials, volatile compounds, metals and waste water*

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminology 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 cell density

number of cells per unit volume of medium

Note 1 to entry: The cell density is expressed as  $x$  cells  $\text{ml}^{-1}$ .