
**Animal and vegetable fats and oils —
Determination of peroxide value
— Iodometric (visual) endpoint
determination**

*Corps gras d'origines animale et végétale — Détermination de l'indice
de peroxyde — Détermination avec point d'arrêt iodométrique*

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 11, *Animal and vegetable fats and oils*.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 3960:2007), of which it constitutes a minor revision to exclude fat coming from milk and milk products.

Introduction

Over a period of many years, various methods have been developed for the determination of peroxides in fats and oils. The general principle of most of the methods is the liberation of iodine from potassium iodide in an acid medium. The method according to Wheeler was standardized more than 50 years ago by different standardization bodies, and it is widely used to control commodities by producers, receivers and official laboratories. In national and international food legislation (including the Codex Alimentarius), acceptable limits for the peroxide values are often specified. Due to anomalies in the reproducibility of the results, it was noticed that there are slight differences between the standardized methods. A very important point is the dependence of the result on the amount of sample used for the determination. As the determination of the peroxide value (PV) is a highly empirical procedure, ISO/TC 34/SC 11 has decided to fix the sample mass at 5 g for PV greater than 1, and at 10 g for PV less than or equal to 1, and to limit the applicability of this method to animal and vegetable fats and oils with peroxide values from 0 meq to 30 meq of active oxygen per kilogram. The user of this document should be aware that the results obtained can be slightly lower than with previous standards.

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