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STANDARD

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**Rapeseed — Determination of  
glucosinolates content —**

**Part 2:**

Method using X-ray fluorescence  
spectrometry

*Graines de colza — Dosage des glucosinolates —*

*Partie 2: Méthode par spectrométrie de fluorescence aux rayons X*



Reference number  
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## Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 9167-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Oleaginous seeds and fruits*.

ISO 9167 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Rapeseed — Determination of glucosinolates content*:

- *Part 1: Method using high-performance liquid chromatography*
- *Part 2: Method using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry*

Annexes A and B of this part of ISO 9167 are for information only.

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# Rapeseed — Determination of glucosinolates content —

## Part 2: Method using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 9167 specifies a rapid method for the determination of the total glucosinolate content of rapeseed using X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF).

It is applicable to seeds with a normal protein content from 19 % to 23 %. For seeds with a protein content outside this range, account should be taken of the total protein content in the calculation of the total glucosinolate content (see reference [4]).

#### NOTES

1 ISO 9167-1 specifies a method using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) which enables the content of different glucosinolates to be determined individually.

2 When applied to immature seed or to seed that has been badly stored, for example under damp and warm conditions, the results obtained by the XRF method and by the HPLC method (ISO 9167-1) may not agree as closely as when applied to normal rapeseed. The HPLC method should be taken as the reference method.

### 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO 9167. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this part of ISO 9167 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO

maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 664:1990, *Oilseeds — Reduction of laboratory sample to test sample.*

ISO 665:1977, *Oilseeds — Determination of moisture and volatile matter content.*

### 3 Definition

For the purposes of this part of ISO 9167, the following definition applies.

**3.1 total glucosinolate content:** The total sulfur content minus those amounts that are bound in proteins or single glucosinolates that cannot be determined by direct reference methods, divided by the average stoichiometric number of sulfur atoms occurring in the glucosinolate fraction typical of *Brassica* species.

### 4 Principle

Determination of total sulfur content in ground and compressed rapeseed by X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy. Calculation of the glucosinolate content by comparison with values of reference samples with a certified sulfur content.

### 5 Materials

**5.1 Whole rapeseed reference materials,** three samples, each with a certified sulfur content.

**5.2 Whole rapeseed secondary reference materials**, three samples, each with a sulfur content which is traceable to certified whole rapeseed reference materials (5.1).

**5.3 Synthetic calibration samples**, three samples, covering the range of sulfur content of interest.

NOTE 3 These samples may be those provided by the manufacturer of the X-ray spectrometer or prepared from powdered material.

## 6 Apparatus

Usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

**6.1 Spoon**, allowing the taking of about 20 g (about 30 ml) of seed.

**6.2 Blender**, coffee-mill type of 100 cm<sup>3</sup> volume, 8 cm diameter and 180 W power.

**6.3 Spatulas**.

**6.4 Aluminium cups or liquid cuvettes**, with windows of polycarbonate film.

**6.5 Hydraulic press**, or other device (**hand-press**) allowing repeatable application of a defined pressure.

**6.6 X-ray spectrometer**, of high dispersion (better than 50 eV) with vacuum equipment or helium atmosphere.

**6.7 Ventilated oven**, capable of operating at 85 °C ± 1 °C, or **microwave oven** of 650 W power, for drying seeds.

## 7 Sampling

It is important that the laboratory receive a sample which is truly representative and has not been damaged or changed during transport or storage.

Sampling is not part of the method specified in this part of ISO 9167. A recommended sampling method is given in ISO 542[1].

## 8 Preparation of samples

### 8.1 Preparation of test samples

**8.1.1** Reduce the laboratory sample in accordance with the method given in ISO 664.

**8.1.2** If the moisture content of the seeds exceeds 10 %, reduce this to between 7 % and 9 % by drying about 40 g (60 ml) of the seeds, spread out in a thin layer, either in the microwave oven (6.7) for 2 min or in the ventilated oven for 75 min at 85 °C.

Allow the seeds to cool to room temperature before proceeding.

**8.1.3** Carry out a parallel determination of the moisture content in accordance with the method given in ISO 665.

### 8.2 Preparation of reference samples

**8.2.1** Treat the rapeseed reference materials (5.1) as described in 8.1.2 and 8.1.3. Three examples of each reference sample are required.

**8.2.2** Use these samples to calibrate the apparatus when it is first put into service and at each further calibration (see 9.3.2).

**8.2.3** Use a new series of reference samples of rapeseed (5.1) for each new calibration procedure.

## 9 Procedure

### 9.1 Test portion

**9.1.1** Take, by means of the spoon (6.1), about 20 g (30 ml) of dried rapeseed, and grind them for 30 s in the grinder (6.2). Scrape off any meal adhering to the walls of the blender by means of the spatula (6.3) and grind the sample again for no more than 1 s, to ensure homogenization.

**9.1.2** Fill the aluminium cup or liquid cuvette (6.4) with homogenized meal to the upper edge, or up to the mark specified by the manufacturer. Handle cups or cuvettes gently after filling to avoid separation of particles of different sizes.

NOTE 4 The quantity of meal put into the aluminium cups or liquid cuvettes depends only on the type of cup or cuvette used and does not influence the results of the determination. However, for each laboratory and each given apparatus, a constant quantity should be used.

### 9.2 Compression of the meal

In all cases, including the reference samples (5.1), the pressure shall be kept constant to within ± 10 %.

### 9.2.1 Aluminium cups

Compress the meal by means of the hydraulic press (6.5) under a constant pressure of 1 t/cm<sup>2</sup>.

### 9.2.2 Liquid cuvettes

Compress the meal by means of the hand-press (6.5) under a pressure that reduces the volume of the meal to 35 % of the original volume.

## 9.3 Calibration

**9.3.1** Verify, by means of the synthetic calibration samples (5.3), that the stability of the spectrometer corresponds to the manufacturer's specifications.

**9.3.2** During routine use, verify the calibration of the spectrometer at least twice a day by means of the secondary reference samples (5.2), prepared according to the method given in 8.2, and recalibrate if necessary by means of the synthetic calibration samples (5.3), using the reference values established for them (9.4.2).

NOTE 5 Calibration of the spectrometer using new reference rapeseeds (5.1) is recommended

- every 3 months to 4 months during routine use;
- when the apparatus has been out of use for more than 4 weeks;
- after any modification, repair or maintenance of the spectrometer.

## 9.4 Determination

**9.4.1** Determine the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line of the three reference samples (5.1) under the usual operating conditions (pressure of tube, electric current, gas flow, strength of vacuum, measurement time, etc.). Carry out each measurement on the three secondary samples prepared from each of the reference samples of seeds.

**9.4.2** Determine the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line of the three synthetic calibration samples (5.3) under the operating conditions specified in 9.4.1.

**9.4.3** Calculate, for each of the reference samples of rapeseed (5.1), the regression line relating sulfur content,  $S_R$ , of the reference sample, expressed in milligrams per gram of product, to the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line measured in 9.4.1.

The regression line is in the form:

$$S_R = bX_R + a$$

where

$X_R$  is the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line for the reference sample;

a and b are constants.

**9.4.4** Calculate the sulfur content,  $S_C$ , of the synthetic calibration samples (5.3) according to the regression line:

$$S_C = bX_C + a$$

where

$X_C$  is the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line for the calibration sample.

**9.4.5** Determine the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line of each test sample (8.1) under the specified operating conditions.

Calculate the sulfur content,  $S_T$ , of each test sample by means of the regression line:

$$S_T = bX_T + a$$

where

$X_T$  is the intensity of the S-K $\alpha$  line for the test sample.

## 10 Expression of results

**10.1** The total glucosinolate content,  $A$ , expressed in micromoles per gram of dry matter of the product (dried in accordance with 8.1.2), is calculated from:

a) for the range of total sulfur contents below 4,93 mg/g

$$A = + 2,53S_T + 0,768S_T^2 - 5,596$$

b) for the range of total sulfur contents greater than or equal to 4,93 mg/g

$$A = 13,724S_T - 42,10$$

**10.2** Express the result as the arithmetic mean of two determinations made on separate sub-samples, to one decimal place.

NOTE 6 When the expression of results is demanded for a specified moisture content (usually 9 %), the result obtained as above should be corrected taking into account the moisture content measured in 8.1.3.

## 11 Precision

An interlaboratory test was carried out in 1990 by 27 laboratories, in accordance with ISO 5725[2].

The precision values obtained are shown in annex A.

### 11.1 Repeatability

The absolute difference between two independent test results, obtained using the same method on identical test material in the same laboratory by the same operator using the same equipment within a short interval of time, should not be greater than:

10 % of the arithmetic mean of the two results with a minimum value of 1  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for glucosinolate contents less than 20  $\mu\text{mol/g}$ ;

5 % of the arithmetic mean of the two results with a minimum value of 1  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for glucosinolate contents greater than 20  $\mu\text{mol/g}$ .

### 11.2 Reproducibility

The absolute difference between two single test results, obtained using the same method on identical

test material in different laboratories with different operators using different equipment, should not be greater than:

20 % with a minimum value of 2  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for glucosinolate contents less than 20  $\mu\text{mol/g}$ ;

25 % with a minimum value of 5  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for glucosinolate contents greater than 20  $\mu\text{mol/g}$ .

## 12 Test report

The test report shall specify

- the method used,
- the results obtained, and
- if the repeatability has been checked, the final quoted result obtained.

It shall also mention all operating details not specified in this part of ISO 9167, or regarded as optional, together with details of any incidents which may have influenced the results.

The test report shall include all information necessary for the complete identification of the sample.

## Annex A

(informative)

### Statistical results of an interlaboratory test on rapeseed

| Sample   | Rapeseed<br>A | Rapeseed<br>B | Rapeseed<br>C |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Number of laboratories retained after eliminating outliers | 21            | 20            | 21            |
| Mean glucosinolate content, $\mu\text{mol/g}$ dry matter   | 16,0          | 32,4          | 11,8          |
| Standard deviation of repeatability, $s_r$                 | 0,4           | 0,6           | 0,3           |
| Coefficient of variation of repeatability, %               | 2,8           | 1,9           | 2,6           |
| Repeatability, $2,83s_r$                                   | 1,3           | 1,8           | 0,9           |
| Standard deviation of reproducibility, $s_R$               | 1,2           | 1,8           | 0,7           |
| Coefficient of variation of reproducibility, %             | 7,4           | 5,6           | 5,8           |
| Reproducibility, $2,83s_R$                                 | 3,4           | 5,2           | 2,0           |

## **Annex B**

(informative)

### **Bibliography**

- [1] ISO 542:1990, *Oilseeds — Sampling*.
- [2] ISO 5725:1986, *Precision of test methods — Determination of repeatability and reproducibility for a standard test method by inter-laboratory tests*.
- [3] ISO 9167-1:1992, *Rapeseed — Determination of glucosinolates content — Part 1: Method using high-performance liquid chromatography*.
- [4] SCHNUG *et al.*, *Fat Sci. Technol.*, 1991.



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