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**Milk fat — Determination of peroxide
value**

Matière grasse laitière — Détermination de l'indice de peroxyde

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
1 Scope	1
2 Terms and definitions	1
3 Principle	1
4 Reagents	1
5 Apparatus	2
6 Sampling	3
7 Preparation of test sample.....	3
7.1 General.....	3
7.2 Anhydrous milk fat, anhydrous butteroil, butteroil, ghee	3
7.3 Butter	4
8 Procedure (see Annex A)	4
8.1 Precautions to avoid oxidation and disturbed recording of extinction	4
8.2 Reagent blank	4
8.3 Test sample blank.....	4
8.4 Test portion	5
8.5 Extinction coefficient of the red iron(III) complex	5
9 Calculation and expression of results.....	6
9.1 Calculation.....	6
9.2 Expression of test results	7
10 Precision	7
10.1 Interlaboratory test	7
10.2 Repeatability.....	7
10.3 Reproducibility	7
11 Test report	7
Annex A (informative) Summary of the procedure and examples of calculations	8
Annex B (informative) Interlaboratory trial	9
Annex C (informative) Comparison trial.....	10
Bibliography.....	13

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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. 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.

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.

ISO 3976|IDF 74 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products*, and the International Dairy Federation (IDF). It is being published jointly by ISO and IDF.

This edition of ISO 3976|IDF 74 cancels and replaces ISO 3976:1977, which has been technically revised. A comparison of the results using the new reagent (methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture) with those found using chloroform/methanol is given in Annex C.

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Foreword

IDF (the International Dairy Federation) is a worldwide federation of the dairy sector with a National Committee in every member country. Every National Committee has the right to be represented on the IDF Standing Committees carrying out the technical work. IDF collaborates with ISO in the development of standard methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Action Teams and Standing Committees are circulated to the National Committees for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 50 % of the IDF National Committees casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. IDF shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3976|IDF 74 was prepared by the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Milk and milk products*. It is being published jointly by IDF and ISO.

All work was carried out by the Joint ISO-IDF Action Team on *Fat*, of the Standing Committee on *Main components of milk*, under the aegis of its project leader, Mr A. van Reusel (BE).

This edition of ISO 3976|IDF 74 cancels and replaces IDF 74A:1991, which has been technically revised. A comparison of the results using the new reagent (methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture) with those found using chloroform/methanol is given in Annex C.

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Milk fat — Determination of peroxide value

WARNING — The use of this International Standard may involve the use of hazardous materials, operations, and equipment. This International Standard does not purport to address all the safety risks associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of local regulatory limitations prior to use.

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of the peroxide value of anhydrous milk fat.

The method is suitable for anhydrous milk fat having a peroxide value up to 1,3 mmol of oxygen per kilogram.

NOTE For milk fat samples with peroxide values between 0,5 mmol and 1,3 mmol of oxygen per kilogram, an extended procedure (see Annex A) is used. For milk fat samples with peroxide values of more than 1,3 mmol of oxygen per kilogram, an iodine/thiosulfate method can be used (e.g. AOAC 920.160).

2 Terms and definitions

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

2.1

peroxide value

amount of substance determined by the procedure specified in this International Standard

NOTE The peroxide value is expressed as millimoles of oxygen per kilogram.

3 Principle

A test portion is dissolved in a mixture of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane, then iron(II) chloride and ammonium thiocyanate are added. The peroxides oxidize the iron(II) which forms a red iron(III) complex with the ammonium thiocyanate. The amount of substance is calculated from a photometric determination of the red iron(III) complex, after a fixed period of reaction.

4 Reagents

Use only reagents of recognized analytical grade, unless otherwise specified, and distilled or demineralized water or water of at least equivalent purity.

4.1 **Methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture**, in ratio 3:2:1 (volume fraction).

Mix 2 volume parts of 1-decanol with 1 volume part of *n*-hexane. Add 3 volume parts of anhydrous methanol to that mixture and mix again.

The mixture is flammable and has an unpleasant odour. Therefore, it is recommended to work in a fume cupboard and to wear gloves.

Petroleum ether with a boiling range at between 60 °C and 80 °C may be used instead of *n*-hexane.

4.2 Iron(II) chloride (FeCl₂) solution, $c(\text{Fe}^{2+}) \sim 1 \text{ mg/ml}$.

Prepare the iron(II) chloride solution in indirect, dimmed light.

Dissolve approx. 0,4 g of barium chloride dihydrate (BaCl₂·2H₂O) in about 50 ml water. Then dissolve approx. 0,5 g of iron(II) sulfate heptahydrate (FeSO₄·7H₂O) in about 50 ml water. Slowly pour the barium chloride solution, with constant stirring, into the iron(II) sulfate solution. Add about 2 ml of hydrochloric acid solution I (4.5) and mix again.

Allow the precipitate of barium sulfate to settle or centrifuge the mixture until the upper liquid layer is clear. Decant the thus-obtained clear solution into a brown bottle. Do not store the solution for more than 1 week.

Alternatively, the iron(II) chloride solution may be prepared by dissolving approximately 0,35 g of iron(II) chloride tetrahydrate (FeCl₂·4H₂O) in about 100 ml water. Add 2 ml of hydrochloric acid solution I (4.5) and mix.

4.3 Ammonium thiocyanate solution.

Dissolve approx. 30 g of ammonium thiocyanate (NH₄SCN) in water. Dilute with water to 100 ml. If the solution is not colourless, wash the solution several times with small amounts (e.g. 5 ml portions) of iso-amyl alcohol (3-methylbutan-1-ol).

4.4 Iron(III) chloride (FeCl₃) standard solution, $c(\text{Fe}) = 10 \text{ } \mu\text{g/ml}$.

Dissolve 0,500 g of iron powder in about 50 ml of hydrochloric acid solution I (4.5) in a 500 ml one-mark volumetric flask. Add 1 ml to 2 ml of hydrogen peroxide solution (4.7). Remove the excess of hydrogen peroxide by boiling for 5 min. Cool to room temperature. Dilute to the 500 ml mark with water and mix.

The iron(III) chloride solution containing 1 g/l of Fe may also be prepared from standardized chemicals available commercially.

Transfer, using a pipette, 1 ml of the obtained solution to a 100 ml one-mark volumetric flask. Dilute to the 100 ml mark with methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1) and mix.

4.5 Hydrochloric acid solution I, approx. $c(\text{HCl}) = 10 \text{ mol/l}$.

4.6 Hydrochloric acid solution II, approx. $c(\text{HCl}) = 0,2 \text{ mol/l}$.

Dilute 2 ml of hydrochloric acid solution I (4.5) with water to 100 ml.

4.7 Hydrogen peroxide solution (H₂O₂), of mass fraction approx. 30 %.

4.8 Dilute nitric acid (HNO₃), of mass fraction approx. 10 %.

5 Apparatus

Usual laboratory apparatus and, in particular, the following.

5.1 Glassware.

Clean all glassware by soaking in dilute nitric acid (4.8) for 24 h. Rinse the glassware four times with tap water and four times with distilled or equivalent water before drying it in the oven (5.10) set at 100 °C for 1 h.

The cleanliness of the glassware is of utmost importance. Other cleaning procedures may also be used if they give the same result.

- 5.2 Analytical balance**, capable of weighing to the nearest 1 mg, with a readability of 0,1 mg.
- 5.3 Dispenser device**, capable of accurately delivering 9,9 ml, 9,6 ml, 9,4 ml, 8,9 ml, 8,4 ml and 7,9 ml of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1).
- 5.4 Dispenser device**, capable of accurately delivering 0,5 ml, 1,0 ml, 1,5 ml and 2,0 ml of iron(III) chloride standard solution (4.4).
- 5.5 Micropipettes**, capable of accurately delivering 0,05 ml of ammonium thiocyanate solution (4.3), of iron(II) chloride solution (4.2) and of hydrochloric acid solution II (4.6) respectively.
- 5.6 Photometer**, capable of measuring at a wavelength near to 500 nm.
- 5.7 Cells with caps**, suitable for the photometer (5.6), resistant to all reagents used in the procedure.
- 5.8 Glass test tubes**, provided with ground glass stoppers.
- 5.9 Oven**, electrically heated, capable of operating at between 40 °C and 45 °C.
- 5.10 Oven**, electrically heated, capable of operating at 100 °C ± 2 °C.
- 5.11 Centrifuge**, capable of producing a radial acceleration of at least 350 *g*, with a swing-out rotor (e.g. a so-called Gerber centrifuge).
- 5.12 Centrifuge tubes**, suitable for using in the centrifuge (5.11).
- 5.13 Glass funnels**, with folded filter paper (medium grade).
- 5.14 Bottles**, suitable for using with the reagents.

6 Sampling

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

Sampling is not part of the method specified in this International Standard. A recommended sampling method is given in ISO 707/IDF 50.

7 Preparation of test sample

7.1 General

Carry out all preparations in indirect subdued light.

7.2 Anhydrous milk fat, anhydrous butteroil, butteroil, ghee

If necessary, completely liquefy the test sample (see IDF 68A for details) by warming the unopened container at the lowest temperature necessary to achieve liquefaction. Mix the liquefied sample, while avoiding the inclusion of air in the sample as far as possible.

Proceed with the determination immediately and while the test sample is still liquid.

7.3 Butter

Add an appropriate quantity of test sample to a centrifuge tube (5.12). Melt the sample in the oven (5.9) set at between 40 °C and 45 °C. Separate the fat by centrifuging at a radial acceleration of at least 350 *g* for 5 min.

Filter the warm separated butterfat through a glass funnel (5.13) with a folded dry filter paper in the oven (5.9) set at between 40 °C and 45 °C. The filtered butterfat shall be clear and visibly free from water and non-fatty compounds.

Proceed with the determination without any delay while the test sample is still liquid.

8 Procedure (see Annex A)

8.1 Precautions to avoid oxidation and disturbed recording of extinction

8.1.1 Avoid any exposure of the test sample to light. Carry out the test in indirect light, subdued as much as is practicable.

8.1.2 Perform all optical extinction measurements at the wavelength of maximal extinction of the red iron(III) complex, i.e. near to 500 nm.

8.1.3 Perform all optical extinction measurements in cells (5.7) which are closed immediately after filling. From the moment of closure, allow the closed cells stand for 10 min to obtain equilibrium in the mixture before reading the extinction.

NOTE Evaporation of the solvent might produce condensation on the upper walls of the cells. By reintegrating the bulk liquid, this condensation creates a diffraction of the light beam by the different solvent streaks resulting in a fluctuating extinction. The 10-min waiting time is needed to obtain equilibrium between the solvent and the vapour phase.

8.2 Reagent blank

8.2.1 Add, using the dispenser (5.3), 9,90 ml of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1) to the test tube (5.8).

8.2.2 Add, using a micropipette (5.5), 0,05 ml of ammonium thiocyanate solution (4.3) to the mixture in the test tube and mix.

8.2.3 Add, using a micropipette (5.5), 0,05 ml of iron(II) chloride solution (4.2) to the mixture in the test tube and mix again.

8.2.4 Transfer the obtained reagent blank mixture to a photometer cell (5.7). Close the cell with a cap and allow it stand for 10 min to obtain equilibrium in the mixture.

Measure the extinction, E_1 , of the reagent blank against the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1). Perform the reagent blank determination at least four times.

8.2.5 The obtained results (E_1) shall be within a range of 0,010 extinction units. The mean reagent blank extinction (E_m) shall not exceed 0,030 units. If the above requirements are not fulfilled, check the photometric procedure, the glassware and the reagents. Correct the procedure or replace what is necessary.

8.3 Test sample blank

8.3.1 Weigh, to the nearest 1 mg, approx. 0,33 g of prepared test sample (see 7.2 or 7.3) in a test tube (5.8).

8.3.2 Without any delay, add, using the dispenser (5.3), 9,60 ml of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1) to the test sample in the tube. Mix gently to dissolve the sample fat.

8.3.3 Add, using a micropipette (5.5), 0,05 ml of ammonium thiocyanate solution (4.3) and mix.

8.3.4 Transfer the test sample blank mixture to a photometer cell (5.7). Close the cell with a cap and allow it stand for 10 min to obtain equilibrium in the mixture. Measure the extinction (E'_0) of the sample blank against the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1).

8.3.5 Correct the obtained test sample blank extinction (E'_0) in 8.3.4 for the differences in mass of the test portions of the test sample blank and of the test sample by using the following equation:

$$E_0 = E'_0 \times \frac{m}{m_0}$$

where

E_0 is the numerical value of the corrected sample blank extinction;

E'_0 is the numerical value of the sample blank extinction (8.3.4);

m_0 is the mass of the test sample blank (8.3.1);

m is the mass of the test sample (8.4.1).

8.4 Test portion

8.4.1 Weigh, to the nearest 1 mg, approximately 0,33 g of prepared test sample (see 7.2 or 7.3) in a test tube (5.8).

8.4.2 Without any delay, add, using the dispenser (5.3), 9,60 ml of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1) to the test portion in the tube. Mix gently to dissolve the sample fat.

8.4.3 Add, using a micropipette (5.5), 0,05 ml of ammonium thiocyanate solution (4.3) to the mixture in the tube and mix.

8.4.4 Add, using a micropipette (5.5), 0,05 ml of iron(II) chloride solution (4.2) to the mixture in the tube and mix again.

8.4.5 Transfer the test portion mixture to a photometer cell (5.7) Close the cell with a cap and let it stand for 10 min to obtain equilibrium in the mixture. Measure the extinction (E_2) of the test portion against the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1).

8.4.6 The procedures described in 8.3 and 8.4 may be performed in one run directly by using a single photometer cell of suitable size. Proceed as described in 8.3.1 to 8.3.3 inclusive. Measure the test blank extinction, E_0 against the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture as in 8.3.4. Then proceed as described in 8.4.4 by adding and mixing 0,05 ml of iron(II) chloride solution (4.2) directly to the photometer cell and measure the sample extinction (E_2) as in 8.4.5.

8.5 Extinction coefficient of the red iron(III) complex

Add, using the dispenser device (5.4), 0,5 ml, 1,0 ml, 1,5 ml and 2,0 ml of iron(III) chloride standard solution (4.4), respectively, to four test tubes (5.8) to obtain a series of solutions containing 5 µg, 10 µg, 15 µg and 20 µg of Fe³⁺ respectively.

Add, using the dispenser device (5.3), 9,4 ml, 8,9 ml, 8,4 ml and 7,9 ml of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (4.1), respectively, to the four tubes to obtain a 9,9 ml mixture in each tube.

Add, using the micropipettes (5.5), 0,05 ml of ammonium thiocyanate solution (4.3) and 0,05 ml of hydrochloric acid solution II (4.6) to each of the four tubes and mix.

Transfer the obtained reaction mixtures to photometer cells (5.7). Close the cells with caps and allow them to stand for 10 min to obtain equilibrium in the mixture. Measure the extinction (E_{Fe}) of each cell against the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture.

Using the obtained extinction data with the associated mass (in micrograms) of Fe^{3+} , calculate by means of the appropriate statistical formulae the linear regression equation as follows:

$$Y = a + bX$$

where

Y is the numerical value of the extinction, E_{Fe} , obtained in the cell (tube);

X is the mass of Fe^{3+} in the cell (tube);

a is the numerical value of the intercept of the regression;

b is the numerical value of the extinction (regression) coefficient of the red iron(III) complex that has to be used in the calculation of the mass of Fe^{3+} (see 9.1.2).

The standard deviation, $s_{y,x}$, of the regression equation shall be less than 0,010 extinction units. If the above requirement is not fulfilled, check the photometric procedure, the glassware and the reagents. Correct the procedure or replace what is necessary.

NOTE The regression equation can be extended to 50 μg of Fe without loss of its linearity (see Annex A).

9 Calculation and expression of results

9.1 Calculation

9.1.1 Calculation of extinction

Calculate the extinction, E , attributable to the red iron(III) complex, by using the following equation:

$$E = E_2 - (E_0 + E_1)$$

where

E_2 is the numerical value of the sample extinction measured as described in 8.4.5;

E_0 is the numerical value of corrected sample blank extinction calculated in 8.3.5;

E_1 is the numerical value of the reagent blank extinction measured as described in 8.2.4.

9.1.2 Calculation of the mass of Fe^{3+}

Calculate the mass of Fe^{3+} , m_c , expressed in micrograms, by using the following equation:

$$m_c = \frac{E}{b}$$

where

E is the numerical value of the extinction, attributable to the red iron(III) complex, calculated in 9.1.1;

b is the numerical value of the extinction coefficient of the red iron(III) complex, calculated in 8.5.

9.1.3 Calculation of the peroxide value

Calculate the peroxide value of the fat, PV, expressed as millimoles of oxygen per kilogram, by using the following equation:

$$PV = \frac{0,5 m_c}{55,84 m}$$

where

m_c is the mass of Fe^{3+} , in micrograms, calculated in 9.1.2;

m is the mass, in grams, of the test portion (8.4.1);

55,84 is the atomic mass of Fe^{3+} needed to express the results in millimoles.

9.2 Expression of test results

Do not round intermediate values. Express the final results to two decimal places.

10 Precision

10.1 Interlaboratory test

Details of an interlaboratory test on the precision of the method are summarized in Annex B. The values derived from this interlaboratory test may not be applicable to concentration ranges and matrices other than those given.

10.2 Repeatability

The absolute difference between two independent single test results, obtained with 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, will in not more than 5 % of cases be greater than 0,03 mmol of oxygen per kilogram.

10.3 Reproducibility

The absolute difference between two single test results, obtained with the same method on identical test material in different laboratories with different operators using different equipment, will in not more than 5 % of cases be greater than 0,07 mmol of oxygen per kilogram.

11 Test report

The test report shall specify:

- a) all information necessary for the complete identification of the sample;
- b) the sampling method used, if known;
- c) the test method used, together with reference to this International Standard;
- d) all operating details not specified in this International Standard, or regarded as optional, together with details of any incidents which may have influenced the test result(s);
- e) the test result(s) obtained, and, if the repeatability has been checked, the final quoted result obtained.

Annex A (informative)

Summary of the procedure and examples of calculations

Table A.1 shows a scheme for the procedure. Tables A.2 and A.3 give examples of calculations.

Table A.1 — Scheme of the procedure

	Determination of the extinction coefficient									
	Test sample	Test blank	Reagent blank	Standard procedure ($\mu\text{g Fe}$)				Extended procedure ^a ($\mu\text{g Fe}$)		
				5	10	15	20	30	40	50
Test portion (7.2/7.3), g	$\pm 0,33$	$\pm 0,33$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reagent solutions										
Fe(III) (4.4), ml				0,50	1,00	1,50	2,00	3,00	4,00	5,00
Mixture (4.1), ml	9,60	9,60	9,90	9,40	8,90	8,40	7,90	6,90	5,90	4,90
NH ₄ SCN (4.3), ml	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05
Fe(II) (4.2), ml	0,05	—	0,05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
HCl (4.6), ml	—	—	—	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,05
Measurement										
E_c (near 500 nm)	E_2	E'_0	E_1	E_5	E_{10}	E_{15}	E_{20}	E_{30}	E_{40}	E_{50}
^a See Note in 8.5.										

Table A.2 — Calculation of the extinction coefficient of the red iron(III) complex (8.5)

X $\mu\text{g Fe(III)}$	Y $E_{\text{Fe(III)}}$
5	0,141
10	0,283
15	0,423
20	0,562

EXAMPLE $E_{\text{Fe(III)}} = 0,0015 + 0,0281 \mu\text{g Fe(III)}$, which finally leads to an extinction coefficient of 0,0281 extinction units per microgram of Fe.

Table A.3 — Calculation of peroxide value (Clause 9)

Sample number	Measurement					Calculation			
	Test sample (m) g	Test blank (m_0) g	E'_0	E_1	E_2	E	E_0	m_c μg	PV mmol/kg
	0,290 9	0,290 8	0,019	0,020	0,204 0	0,165 0	0,019 0	5,880	0,18
	0,291 5	0,291 0	0,037	0,020	0,094 0	0,036 9	0,037 1	1,316	0,04

Annex B (informative)

Interlaboratory trial

An international collaborative trial involving eleven laboratories from seven countries was carried out on two different samples of eight anhydrous milk fat samples. The test was organized by Agriculture Research Centre (CRA) in Belgium.

The results obtained were subjected to statistical analysis in accordance with ISO 5725-1 and ISO 5725-2 to give the precision data shown in Table B.1.

Table B.1 — Results of interlaboratory tests

	Anhydrous milk fat								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Mean
No. of laboratories retained ^a after eliminating outliers	9	9	9	9	9	9	8 ^b	8 ^b	
Mean value ^c	1,049	0,699	0,607	0,445	0,308	0,271	0,913	0,690	0,618
Repeatability standard deviation, s_r ^c	0,040	0,021	0,024	0,015	0,014	0,011	0,015	0,017	0,022
Coefficient of variation of repeatability ^d	3,77	2,94	3,92	3,47	4,47	4,08	1,62	2,40	3,56
Repeatability limit, r (= 2,8 s_r) ^c	0,111	0,058	0,067	0,043	0,038	0,031	0,041	0,046	0,06
Reproducibility standard deviation, s_R ^c	0,061	0,052	0,041	0,035	0,042	0,030	0,058	0,050	0,047
Coefficient of variation of reproducibility ^d	5,82	7,38	6,83	7,83	13,62	11,01	6,34	7,20	7,61
Reproducibility limit R (= 2,8 s_R) ^c	0,171	0,144	0,116	0,098	0,117	0,084	0,162	0,139	0,13
^a The results of two laboratories were discarded for difficulties with the method or too high reagent blank values. So only the results of the remaining nine laboratories were taken into account in the statistical evaluation. ^b Outlier removed. ^c Values are expressed as milli-equivalent of oxygen per kilogram. For expressing them in millimoles (= SI unit), divide them by 2. ^d Values are expressed as percentage (%).									

Annex C (informative)

Comparison trial

C.1 Reason for implementation of methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture

For ecological reasons, the chloroform/methanol mixture (with a volume fraction ratio of 7:3) used in ISO 3976:1977 and IDF 74A:1991 has been replaced by a methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane mixture (with a volume fraction ratio of 3:2:1).

NOTE Due to the bad smell of the latter, however, some countries still have preference for using the chloroform/methanol mixture as long as this is allowed.

C.2 Comparison of results obtain with the old and new reagent

For comparison purposes, some performance characteristics of both solvent mixtures are given in Figure C.1 and Table C.1.

Figure C.1 shows the calibration curves determined by using the method as described in ISO 3976:1977 or IDF 74A:1991, using as reagent either the chloroform/methanol (CM) mixture or its replacement the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane (MDH) mixture.

Table C.1 shows the peroxide values, expressed in milli-equivalents of oxygen per kilogram, of 26 milk fat samples determined by using the method as described in ISO 3976:1977 or IDF 74A:1991 using as reagent either the chloroform/methanol (CM) mixture or its replacement the methanol/1-decanol/*n*-hexane (MDH) mixture.

C.3 Summary

The mean peroxide value of the 26 milk fat samples obtained with either of the solvent mixtures shows no significant difference.

The repeatability, the sensitivity of the method, the linearity of the calibration curves and the absorption of the blank obtained by either of the solvent mixtures are also comparable.