

CEN/TC 230 "Water analysis"

Secretariat: **DIN**

Secretary: **Dominik Ralph Mr**



EN 17899 (Chlorophyll) Call for participation - Interlab trial (CEN-TC 230-WG 23_N283)

Document type	Related content	Document date	Expected action
Project / Other		2025-08-13	COMMENT/REPLY by 2025-10-30

Description

Dear members,

to revalidate EN 17899 "Water quality - Spectrophotometric determination of chlorophyll-a content by ethanol extraction for the routine monitoring of water quality," WG 23 will organise a Infterlaboratoy trial in April or May 2026. Detailed information is given in the enclosed document.

Please circulate the information document to your national mirror committees and send your application or expression of interest directly to the indicated contact.

Kind regards,

Ralph Dominik

Secretary CEN/TC 230

CEN/TC 230/WG 23 "Aquatic macrophytes and algae"



Call for participation - Interlab trial EN 17899

Document type	Related content	Document date	Expected action
General / Other		2025-07-22	INFO

Description

At the CEN/TC 230/WG 23 meeting on 12 December 2024, the members agreed to organize a new interlaboratory trial on a European level under German project leadership. The interlaboratory trial will take place in 2026. Enclosed, you can find further information about the interlaboratory trial and the conditions for participation.

NOTE

Author Hein Goeyens

Date 2025-07-18

Subject Call for participants interlab EN 17899

In 2024, the EN 17899 (Water quality - Spectrophotometric determination of chlorophyll-a content by ethanol extraction for the routine monitoring of water quality) was published. The performance data obtained in an interlaboratory trial study in the Netherlands in 2004 according to NEN 6520 and equivalent to EN 17899 have been included in Annex A of the EN 17899.

At the CEN/TC 230/WG 23 meeting on 12 December 2024, the members agreed to organize a new interlaboratory trial on a European level under German project leadership. The interlaboratory trial will take place in 2026. Enclosed, you can find further information about the interlaboratory trial and the conditions for participation.

Interested laboratories in participation can register by sending an e-mail to hein.goeyens@nen.nl (secretary CEN/TC 230/WG 23) before 2025-10-30.

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P.O. Box 5059, 2600 GB • Vlinderweg 6, 2623 AX Delft
+31 (0) 15 2 690 390

NOTE CONTINUED

Key points of the European interlab trial for the validation of EN 17899:2024 “Water quality - Spectrophotometric determination of chlorophyll-a content by ethanol extraction for the routine monitoring of water quality” – planned for 2026

(draft 2025-06-18)

Parameters

- chlorophyll-a
- phaeopigments

Matrix

- river water
- sea water

Organizer

This interlab trial is organized by the Saxon state company for environment and agriculture (BfUL) on behalf of CEN/TC 230/WG 23 "Aquatic macrophytes and algae", as a member of German workgroup DIN NA 119-01-03-05-11 AK „Chlorophyll“. The BfUL will prepare and dispatch the samples 1-3 (freshwater). It is planned that a second laboratory will prepare and dispatch a fourth sample (sea water).

Contact information of the organizer: markus.paul@smekul.sachsen.de or ringversuch@smekul.sachsen.de

Goal

The goal of this interlab trial is to determine the performance characteristics of EN 17899:2024 with measurements of different Chlorophyll concentration levels in different aquatic matrices. Valid performance characteristics will later be included in the annexes A and D of the standard.

The validation of this standard is a prerequisite for the inclusion in Annex 5 of the European Water Framework Directive.

The interlab trial will not evaluate the performance of the participating laboratories!

Approved analytical procedure

- Chlorophyll-a EN 17899:2024
- Phaeopigment EN 17899:2024, annex B

Conditions for participation

The number of participants will be limited to 20 laboratories.

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NOTE CONTINUED

Participants of the interlab trial have to be acquainted (better: experienced) with the procedures described in EN 17899:2024 and must adhere to the requirements made in the standard. The participants shall confirm that on the registration form.

The participants shall analyze the samples completely in their own lab, with their own equipment and staff. Subcontracting is not allowed. No deviations from the standard procedures shall be made; other analytical methods are not permitted.

The organizer will try to represent all member states in the choice of participants among the interested laboratories reported by the CEN member states, provided that a maximum sample transport time of 48 hours can be guaranteed.

It is desirable to have at least 12 participants for the valid determination of performance data. The organizer reserves the right to postpone or cancel the interlab trial, should the number of interested laboratories be below that figure.

Each participant will get an evaluation document and a certificate of attendance.

Concentration range

Chlorophyll-a concentrations between 5 and 150 µg/l.

Laboratories are expected to reach a lower limit of measurement of at least:

- Chlorophyll-a 3 µg/l
- Phaeopigment 3 µg/l

Samples

Four natural surface water samples (containing phytoplankton) for 4 parallel, separate measurements in each case:

sample 1: river water, low Chlorophyll level (diluted): 4 x 1 liter

sample 2: river water, medium level (native or topped with *Chlorella* culture): 2 x 1 liter

sample 2: river water, high level (topped with *Chlorella* culture): 2 x 1 liter

sample 4: sea water (planned, details to be determined)

The samples 1-3 are sent together in thermo boxes with cold packs and shall be stored after arrival in the dark at 5 ± 3 °C until start of analysis.

Dates

feedback from CEN to organizer: list of laboratories interested in participation: **2025-10-31**

registration deadline for participants: **2026-02-16** at ringversuch@smekul.sachsen.de

shipment and analysis:

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NOTE CONTINUED

samples 1-3

shipment of samples: 2026-04-21

arrival of samples: **latest 2026-04-23 at 10:00 am**

analysis (filtration, extraction, photometry): at **2026-04-23**

sample 4

It will be sent out separately at a date to be determined, probably in April or May 2026. As with the other samples, the analysis shall take place at the second day after shipment.

submission of results for all samples:

at the latest **2026-06-15** to ringversuch@smekul.sachsen.de

Submission of results

For each sample, four independent analyses have to be made. The results shall be given in µg/l with 3 significant digits, but at most two decimal places.

For auditing purposes, additional raw data shall be submitted: filtered sample volume, extract volume, absorbance values at 650 nm and 750 nm before and after acidification, length of photometer cuvette, as well as the temperature of water samples at the time of arrival.

An Excel data transfer form will be provided together with samples 1-3. The completely filled form shall be sent back after the end of the last sample analysis.

Assessment method

The data of this trial will be statistically assessed according ISO 5725-2:2019 "Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results. Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method" or the next issue of this standard.

Expenses

No participation fee will be charged. Each participant has to cover his costs of analytics.