Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for the detection of food-borne pathogens - Requirements for amplification and detection for qualitative methods
The Tanzania Bureau of Standards is the statutory national standards body for Tanzania, formally established by the Act.No.3 of 1975, which was amended and repealed by Act.No.2 of 2009.

This Tanzania Standard has been prepared by the Microbiology Technical Committee, under the supervision of the Agriculture and Food Standards Divisional Committee (AFDC).

It is identical to ISO 20838:2006 - Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for the detection of food-borne pathogens - Requirements for amplification and detection for qualitative methods, published by International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

TERMINOLOGY AND CONVENTIONS

The text of the International standard is hereby being recommended for approval without deviation for publication as Tanzania standard.

Some terminologies and certain conventions are not identical with those used in Tanzania standards; attention is drawn especially to the following:

1) The comma has been used as a decimal marker for metric dimensions. In Tanzania Standards, it is current practice to use “full point” on the baseline as the decimal marker.

2) Where the words “International Standard(s)” appear, referring to this standard they should read “Tanzania Standard(s)”.

SCOPE

This International Standard provides the overall framework for qualitative methods for the detection of foodborne pathogens using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

It covers the general requirements for the specific amplification of target nucleic acid sequences and the detection and confirmation of the identity of the amplified nucleic acid sequence.

Guidelines, minimum requirements and performance characteristics described in this International Standard are intended to ensure that comparable and reproducible results are obtained in different laboratories.

This International Standard has been established for food-borne pathogens in or isolated from food and feed matrices, but can also be applied to other matrices, for example environmental samples, or to the detection of other microorganisms under investigation.