# International Standard



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## Black pepper and white pepper, whole or ground — Determination of piperine content — Spectrophotometric method

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### **Foreword**

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 5564 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, Agricultural food products, and was circulated to the member bodies in February 1981.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries:

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No member body expressed disapproval of the document.

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### 0 Introduction

The method described in this international Standard is based on a number of international collaborative studies carried out over a long period of time. Necessarily, the method seeks to optimize a number of variables in an attempt to define procedures and provide a common measure of the pungency open pepper.

### 1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a spectrophotometric method for the determination of the piperine content of black or white pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.), in whole or in ground form.

### 2 References

ISO 939, Spices and condiments — Determination of moisture content — Entrainment method.

ISO 948, Spices and condiments - Sampling.

ISO 2825, Spices and condiments — Preparation of a ground sample for analysis.

### 3 Definition

**3.1** piperine content: The quantity of pungent compounds (piperine and its analogues) in the product, determined by the procedure specified in this International Standard, and expressed as a percentage by mass.

### 4 Principle

Extraction of the pungent compounds with ethanol and spectrophotometric measurement at 343 nm.

### 5 Reagent

**5.1** Ethanol, 96 % (V/V).

### 6 Apparatus

Usual laboratory equipment, and in particular

- **6.1 Extraction apparatus,** comprising the following components joined together by means of ground-glass joints.
- 6.1.1 Flask, round-bottomed, of capacity 100 ml.
- 6.1.2 Reflux condenser.
- **6.1.3** Anti-bumping granules : glass beads.
- **6.2** One-mark volumetric flasks, of capacities 25, 50 and 100 ml, complying with the requirements of ISO 1042, and wrapped in aluminium foil or black tape (6.4).
- 6.3 Filter paper.
- 6.4 Aluminium foil or black tape.
- **6.5** Pipettes, one-mark, of capacity 5 ml, complying with the requirements of ISO 648.
- **6.6** Spectrophotometer, capable of accurately measuring absorbances at 343 nm, and provided with a pair of matched silica cells, or cells transparent to ultraviolet radiation, of optical path length 1 cm.

### 6.7 Analytical balance.