

Optimization of Organoleptic Methods

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key words

organoleptics, statistical methods, confidence interval, optimal value, group of testers, odor detection threshold

We investigated the assessment of the odor detection threshold by members of the test team using two odorants: butanol and dimethyl ether. We have determined the limits of permissible error in determining the threshold of odor detection and the optimal number of testers, taking into account the significance and material costs.

Olfactometry is engaged in the analysis of odor, which is the field of evaluation of the reaction / response of testers. Olfactometric analysis is associated with significant material costs, primarily for the training and training of testers and payment of their labor costs. Since it is necessary to involve a group of testers to perform an organoleptic analysis, the economic costs of the analysis depend on the number of people in the group. It follows from this that the number of testers in the group should be optimal in order to ensure a sufficient level of accuracy in determining the smell with minimal economic costs.

Based on the results obtained, it can be concluded that 4 participants are the most optimal number of testers in the group to determine the threshold for odor detection. This conclusion can be traced by measurements of the detection threshold of both butanol and dimethyl ether.

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