O.146 - AMBIENT AIR SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF AIRBORNE POLLEN GRAINS AND FUNGAL SPORES FOR NETWORKS RELATED TO ALLERGY VOLUMETRIC HIRST METHOD

Michel Thibaudon, Samuel Monnier
RNSA (French Aerobiology Network)
• Biological particles → Health impact (more than 3 Million people in France suffer of allergic rhinitis due to pollen)
• Pollens recognized as « atmospheric pollutant » (i.e. French Environmental Code, § L220-2)
• Increasing number of national aeroallergen networks

• IAA (International Association for Aerobiology) and EAS (European Aerobiology Society) cover issues on:
  ➢ Sampling ➢ Analysis
  ➢ Quality control ➢ Dissemination of information

⇒ need for a higher quality level of analysis and for a standardization of procedures
General context: Historic

• **UNI 11108:2004** «Air quality; Method for sampling and counting airborne pollen grains and fungal spores». Italy

• **VDI 4252 Part 4** «Bioaerosols and biological agents; Investigation of airborne allergy relevant pollen and mould spores using a volumetric method». Germany

• **Spanish Aerobiology Network (REA): Management and Quality Manual**
Structure of CEN (comette, working group)

- Technical Committee (TC)
  - Body who manages the preparation of CEN deliverables
    CEN/TC 264 – Air quality

- Working Group (WG)
  - Group, established by a Technical Committee that undertakes a specific task, usually resulting in the provision of a draft Standard, Technical Specification or Technical report
    WG 39 "Sampling and analysis of airborne pollen grains and fungal spores"
CEN/TS 16868 has been published

CEN/TS 16868 - Ambient air - Sampling and analysis of airborne pollen grains and fungal spores for allergy networks - Volumetric Hirst method

The work on CEN/TS 16868 has been carried out by WG 39 over 2012-2015.

Finalisation of the CEN/TS Draft on May 2015

Approval by CEN/TC 264 on September 2015

The CEN National Members were granted a three-month term for consultation at national level.

Publication on December 2015
From CEN/TS to EN 16868

The main reasons of the conversion … of the Technical Specification to an EN:

- A needed standardized method for a future European legislation: adding biological particles to chemical particles for the airborne monitoring;

- The TS is a first step;

- Complementary information is requested:
  - On the synergy between pollen and fungal spores’ exposition and air pollution in order to decrease the risk of Health impact;
  - On thresholds of pollen exposure in order to involve patients in clinical trials;

- Homogenization of European practices: this standard will support the quality improvement of the sampling and the analysis methods in Europe;

=> CEN/TC 264/WG 39 agreed for the conversion of the TS to an EN
Process of the conversion (1)

1 month
NWIP
- Consultation by CEN/TC 264 Secretary

5-6 months
Working Draft
- Preparation of the WD within the WG 39
  - WD is sent to CEN/TC 264 Secretary to launch the CEN Enq.

4 months
CEN Enquiry
- Included national enquiries (1 to 2 months)
  - General (ge) technical (te) editorial (ed) comments
  - Negative vote has to be justified
  - If no technical comments ...

6 months
prEN 16868
- Comments are discussed within the WG 39
  - Looking for an appropriate European consensus
  - Table of decisions and prEN (clean copy and track changes) sent to CEN/TC 264 Secretary in order to launch the FV

2 months
Formal Vote
- Only editorial comments can be submitted

3 months
Publication
- Ratification
- Translation
- Publication
  - Skip the FV and go straight to publication

From CEN/TS 16868
To EN 16868
Process of the conversion (2)

CEN/TC 264/WG 39 WORKING PROGRAM

A working document of prEN has been draft by WG 39.

- A first meeting was held in Vienna - on 3 and 4 February 2016.
- Circulation of a 1st Working draft within WG 39 – April 2016.
- Meeting in Lyon (France) on July 2016
- Meeting in Paris (France) on January 2017
- Meeting in Léon (Spain) on February 2018 : end of the final draft. Now the draft is in the process of translation in the different languages before the formal vote and the publication (March 2019).
Recommendations taken by CEN/TC 264/WG 39
22 & 23 February 2018 (Universidad de Léon, Spain)

Recommendation 1
CEN/TC 264/WG 39 unanimously agrees on the modifications made on the prEN 16868 working document during the meeting.
The document prEN 16868 is considered as the FINAL version based on the modifications acted during the meeting.

Recommendation 2
CEN/TC 264/WG 39 recommends that this final version is ready to be sent to CEN/CCMC for FORMAL VOTE. AFNOR is asked to format the document before sending it to CCMC.

Recommendation 3
As secretary of CEN TC 264 WG 39, C. LHUILLERY will inform the WG 39 when the Formal vote will be launched.

Recommendation 4
CEN/TC 264/WG 39 considers that it is not necessary to meet again on the actual project. Moreover, no other project is planned for the future. Therefore, CEN TC 264 WG 39 recommends maintaining the working group as dormant within CEN TC 264. If necessary, WG 39 will be reactivated.

Recommendation 5
CEN/TC 264/WG 39 especially thanks Délia FERNANDEZ for welcoming the working group in Léon and in the Universidad of Léon. Very grateful for the good meeting facilities, the excellent lunch and dinner.

Recommendation 6
M. THIBAUDON and C. LHUILLERY as convenor and secretary of CEN TC 264 WG 39 are very grateful to all the experts for their fruitful cooperation and participation during all these years.
Picture in Leon with the WG39 – 22 February 2018

Ambient air — Sampling and analysis of airborne pollen grains and fungal spores for networks related to allergy — Volumetric Hirst method

Air ambiant — Échantillonnage et analyse des grains de pollen et des spores fongiques aériens pour les réseaux relatifs à l’allergie — Méthode volumétrique de Hirst

Descriptive:
Thank you for your attention !