# **Sensory Evaluation**

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## **Defining Sensory Evaluation**

Sensory evaluation is a scientific discipline used to evoke, measure, analyze and interpret reactions to those characteristics of foods and materials as they are perceived by the senses of sight, smell, taste, touch and hearing.

## Table 2.1 Sensory evaluation activities within a company

Product development

Product reformulation/cost reduction

Monitoring competition

Quality control

Quality assurance

Product sensory specification

Raw materials specifications

Storage stability

Process/ingredient/analytical/sensory relationships

Advertising claims

# what sensory evaluation is capable of doing,

- 1. Provide quantitative information about the sensory properties of all company and competitive products.
- 2. Provide useful and timely information and recommendations about product sensory properties as requested.
- 3. Maintain a pool of individuals qualified to participate in a wide range of tests.
- 4. Develop methods that are unique to specific products and methods that are for general use.
- 5. Develop methods and procedures for relating sensory and analytical information for use in product research, quality control, and quality assurance.
- 6. Maintain awareness of new developments in product evaluation and their application to the company.
- 7. Provide assistance to other groups in the company, on request.
- 8. Ensure that no product of the company fails because of a sensory deficiency.

Table 2.2 A guide for allocating space for sensory testing<sup>a</sup>

| Area (ft²) | Number    | Number   | Annual volume | Number      |
|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|-------------|
|            | of booths | of staff | of testing    | of subjects |
| 400        | 5-6       | 1-2      | 200-300       | 100-200     |
| 600        | 6         | 2-3      | 300-400       | 200         |
| 800        | 6-8       | 4        | 400-600       | 300-400     |
| 1000       | 8         | 5-6      | 700-800       | 400-500     |
| 1500-2000  | 2 × 6     | 8-9      | ≥1000         | >500        |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The entries are estimates of the amount of space, booths, and staff that are capable of doing a specified number of tests. Additional information about the use of the table can be found in the text.

Table 2.4 Categories of tests and examples of methods used in sensory evaluation

| Category       | Test type   |
|----------------|---|
| Discriminative | Difference: paired comparison, duo trio, triangle |
| Descriptive    | Descriptive analysis: Flavor profile, QDA         |
| Affective      | Acceptance - preference: nine-point hedonic       |

Affective tests are used to assess consumer response to products. They are concerned with acceptability of a product or whether one product is preferred over another.

#### SENSORY EVALUATION PRODUCT ATTITUDE SURVEY

To match your product preferences, usage, and sensory skills to the samples to be evaluated, please complete this questionnaire. All information will be maintained confidential.

| PLEASE PRINT                  |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Name                          | Department              |
|                               | •                       |
| •                             | Date                    |
| General Information           |                         |
| Female                        | Male                    |
| Under 34yrs. 11 mos           | _ 35 to 50 Over 50      |
| Married                       | Single                  |
| Children 0                    | 1                       |
| 2                             | 3                       |
| 4 or more                     |                         |
|                               | , etc.) Poultry Seafood |
|                               | Soy                     |
|                               | Spices (specify)        |
| Meats (specify)               | Vegetables (specify)    |
| Milk                          | <del></del>             |
| 2. Please indicate if you are | on a special diet.      |
| Diabetic                      | Low Salt                |
| High Calorie                  | No Special Diet         |
| Low Calorie                   | Other (specify)         |

The following is a list of products of current, or perhaps of potential interest, arranged in categories. Each product has descriptive terms from *won't eat* or *never tried* to *like extremely* or *dislike extremely*. Using these descriptions as guidelines, please **circle** the number under each phrase that most closely describes your attitude about that particular food.

| Categories | Won't<br>Eat | Never<br>Tried | Food Item              | Like<br>Extremely | Like<br>Very<br>Much | Like<br>Moder-<br>ately | Like<br>Slightly | Neither<br>Like nor<br>Dislike | Dislike<br>Slightly | Dislike<br>Moder-<br>ately | Dislike<br>Very<br>Much | Dislike<br>Extremely |
|------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Baked      | 11           | 10             | Cakes                  | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Products & | 11           | 10             | Cookies                | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Desserts   | 11           | 10             | Puddings               | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Breakfast  | 11           | 10             | Pancakes               | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Foods      | 11           | 10             | Toaster Pop-Ups        | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
|            | 11           | 10             | Donuts                 | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
|            | 11           | 10             | Carbonated Soft Drinks | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Beverages  | 11           | 10             | Coffee                 | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
|            | 11           | 10             | Tea                    | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
|            | 11           | 10             | Citrus                 | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Juices     | 11           | 10             | Non-Citrus             | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
|            | 11           | 10             | Chili                  | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Canned     | 11           | 10             | Fruit                  | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |
| Foods      | 11           | 10             | Spaghetti              | 9                 | 8                    | 7                       | 6                | 5                              | 4                   | 3                          | 2                       | 1                    |

# Response scale should be:

**Meaningful to subjects**: The words used for questions and/or to scale the responses must be familiar, easily understood, and unambiguous to the subjects. Words must be readily related to the product and the task,

Uncomplicated to use: task and scale must be easy to use.

**Relevant:** relates to scale validity, the scale should measure that attribute, characteristic, attitude, etc., that it is intended to measure. For example, preference scales should measure preference, and quality scales should measure quality; and it is unwise to infer one from the other.

Sensitive to differences.

Provides for a variety of statistical analyses

# Four categories of scales:

- 1. Nominal scales for use in classification or naming.
- 2. Ordinal scales for use in ordering or ranking.
- 3. Interval scales for use in measuring magnitudes, assuming equal distances between points on the scale.
- 4. Ratio scales for use in measuring magnitudes, assuming equality of ratios between points.

| Name  | Code                            | Date   |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| In which location(s) in your hom necessary. | ie do you most often use air fr | esheners? Please check as many as  |
| □ Kit                                       | tchen<br>edroom<br>oset         | <ul><li>□ Garage</li><li>□ Family room</li><li>□ Dining room</li><li>□ Living room</li></ul> |

**Figure 3.1** Example of a scorecard that uses a nominal scale to obtain information about product usage charácteristics.

#### **Ordinal Scales**

Ordinal scales use either numbers or words organized from "high" to "low," "most" to "least," etc.,

Ranking is one of the most commonly used types of ordinal scale.

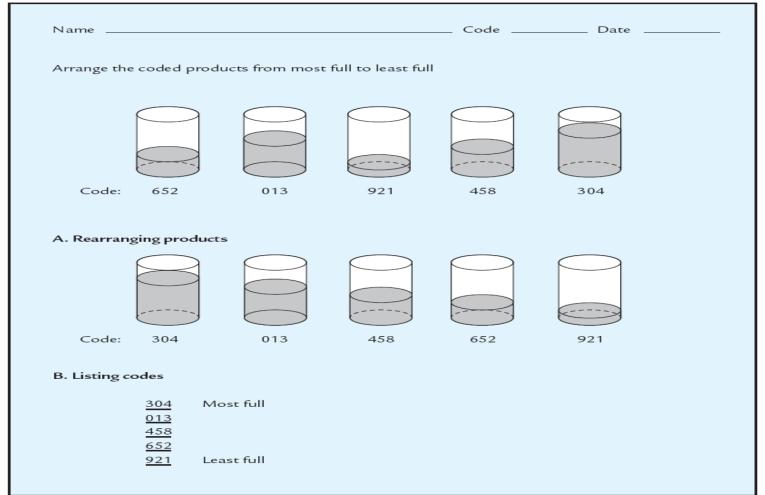


Figure 3.2 Examples of a direct ranking test in which the respondents can (A) rearrange the products or (B) list the codes. In the former procedure, the products are moved; in the latter, the subject records the order and no product movement is required.

| Name                  | Co           |             |               |              | de           |            | Date _        |              |      |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------|
| Check one evaluating. | of the boxes | that repre  | sents your c  | ppinion ab   | out the tast | e intens   | ity of the pi | roduct you a | ire  |
|                       |              |             |               |              | Pr           | Product    |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Intensity   | oftaste       |              | 487          | 92         | 24            |              |      |
|                       |              |             |               |              | Taste        | Tas        | te            |              |      |
|                       |              | None        |               | 10           |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Slight      |               | 9            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              |             |               | 8            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Moderat     | e             | 7            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              |             |               | 6            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Strong      |               | 5            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Strong      |               | 3            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              | Extreme     |               | 2            |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       |              |             |               | 1            |              |            |               |              |      |
| A                     |              |             |               |              |              |            |               |              |      |
| Name                  |              |             |               | Code         |              | Da         | ate           |              |      |
| Check the l           | oox that rep | resents the | relative inte | ensity for t | hat charact  | eristic yo | ou are evalu  | uating.      |      |
| Characteris           | Light        |             |               | _            |              | _          | Dark<br>□     | <b>-</b>     |      |
| Characteris           |              |             |               |              |              |            |               |              |      |
|                       | Weak<br>□    |             |               |              |              |            | Strong        |              |      |
| В                     |              | 1.          |               |              | 111          | _ I_       | 1 •           |              |      |
| .3 Two exa            | imples of    | ordinal-t   | ype ratin     | g scales     | that have    | e been     | used in s     | sensory e    | valu |
| ate a etruc           | +            | la +ba+ a   | ما مما:مدم    | سيم طلام     |              | . میر ام   | 4d 60+666     | :            |      |

Figure 3.3 Two examples of ordinal-type rating scales that have been used in sensory evaluation. The first (A) represents a structured scale that contains both numerical and word categories, some of which have been weighted. The second (B) is a less complicated scale with no numerical values and only two word anchors.

#### **Interval Scales**

An interval scale is one in which the interval or distance between points on the scale is assumed to be equal and the scale has an arbitrary zero point. Interval scales may be constructed from paired-comparison, rank, or rating scale procedures, or by the method of bisection, equal sense distances, and equal-appearing categories.

The two interval scales with which most sensory professionals should be familiar are the nine-point hedonic scale and the graphic rating scale.



**Figure 3.4** An example of a line scale - graphic rating scale. The subject places a vertical line across the horizontal line at that place that best reflects the intensity of that characteristic. Typically the two anchors reflect a continuum from weak to strong intensity.

#### **Ratio Scales**

Ratio-scale data exhibit the same properties as interval-scale data, and in addition, there is a constant ratio between points and an absolute zero.

## **Selected Measurement Techniques**

#### A. Hedonic Scale

Of all scales and tests methods, the nine-point hedonic scale occupies a unique niche in terms of its general applicability to the measurement of product acceptance—preference.

Please circle the term that best reflects your attitude about the product whose code matches the code on this scorecard.

Like extremely

Like very much

Like moderately

Like slightly

Neither like or dislike

Dislike slightly

Dislike woderately

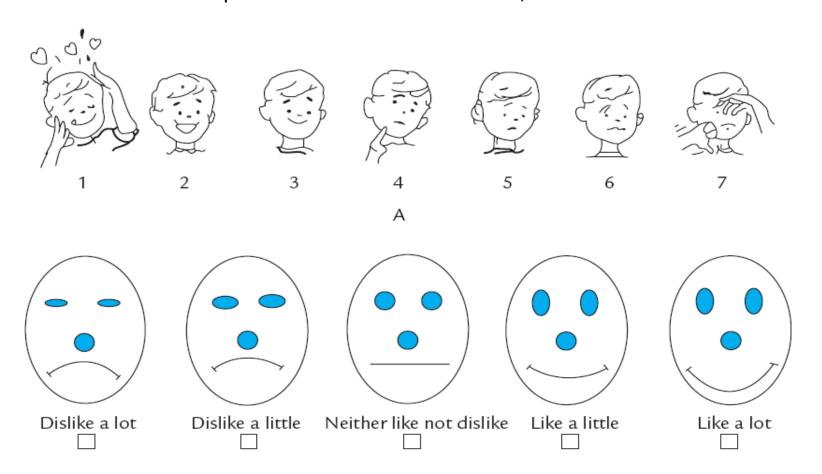
Dislike woderately

Dislike very much

Figure 3.5 An example of the nine-point hedonic scale. The subject's task is to circle the term that best represents their attitude about the product. Boxes adjacent to the terms could also be used. The responses are converted to numerical values for computational purposes: like extremely, 9; dislike extremely, 1.

#### **B. Face Scales**

These scales were primarily intended for use with children and those with limited reading and/or comprehension skills. They can be described as a series of line drawings of facial expressions ordered in a sequence from a smile to a frown,



Please check the box under the figure which best describes how you feel about this product.

В

Figure 3.7 Two examples of face scales that can be found in the literature and appear to have been used for measuring children's responses to products.

### C. Just-About-Right Scale

The just-about-right (or jar) scale is one of the most frequently encountered in larger scale consumer testing.

| Make a mark in the box that represents your react | ion to the product.   |
|---|---|
| Aroma  Too strong  Just about right  Too weak     | Sweetness  Much too strong  Strong  Just about right  Weak  Much too weak |

Figure 3.8 Two examples of just-about-right scales. Both types of scales would not be placed on the same scorecard. They are presented here for illustrative purposes.

# **Discrimination Testing**

paired-comparison and triangle tests; well known dual-standard not well known

Here are two products; which one has the stronger flavor?" or "Here are three products, which one is different from the other two?"

# **Methods:**

18

Paired comparison, duo-trio, triangle

| Paired-comparison test |      |      |  |  |  |
|------------------------|------|------|--|--|--|
| Name                   | Code | Date |  |  |  |

In front of you are two samples; starting with the sample on the left, evaluate each and circle the sample which is most sweet. You must make a choice, even it if is only a guess. You may retaste as often as you wish. Thank you.

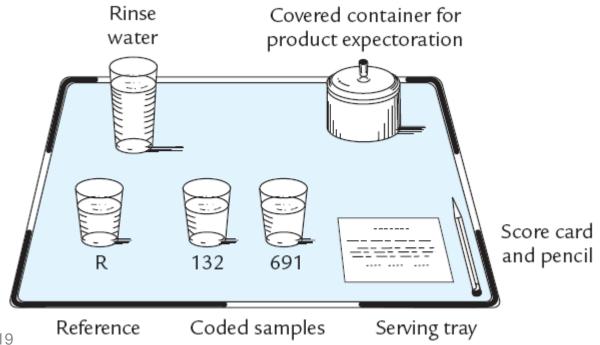
847 566

#### Duo-trio test

Code Name Date

In front of you are three samples, one marked R and the other two, coded; evaluate the samples starting from left to right, first R and then the other two. Circle the code of the sample different from R. You may retaste the samples. You must make a choice. Thank you.

> R 691 132



### **C.** Triangle Test

The triangle test is the most well-known of the three methods. It has been used to a much greater extent because it was mistakenly believed to be more sensitive than other methods (i.e. based on the probability of ).

| Triangle test  |      |      |  |  |  |  |
|--|------|------|--|--|--|--|
| Name   | Code | Date |  |  |  |  |
| In front of you are three coded samples, two are the same and one is different; starting from the left evaluate the samples and circle the code that is different from the other two. You may reevaluate the samples. You must make a choice. Thank you. |      |      |  |  |  |  |
| 624  | 801  | 199  |  |  |  |  |

# **Components of discrimination Test**

- A. Organization and Test Management
- **B.** Test Requests
- **C.** Test Objectives
- **D.** Test Procedures
- E. Data Analysis and Interpretation
- F. The Just-Noticeable Difference

| Table 5.2 Example of a discrimination test request forma  |  |
|---|--|
| To be completed by the requestor Experimenter: Test objective: Product: Sample location, description, and history (storage, etc.): If storage, withdrawal date: Sample amounts and availability: People to be excluded from testing: Report distribution: | Date:<br>Priority:<br>Project number:  |
| To be completed by sensory evaluation Receipt date: Type of test method: Suggested test date: Design: Number and type of subject: Methods of sample presentation: Number of replications: Experimenter comments:  | Serving conditions: Sample quantity: Sample temperature: Carrier: Serving container: Lighting conditions: Other: |

# **Experimental design for discrimination tests**

| Table 5.4 A serving order for the directional paired-comparison test <sup>a</sup> |           |            |  |  |  |
|---|-----------|------------|--|--|--|
|   | Servi     | ng order   |  |  |  |
| Subject   | First set | Second set |  |  |  |
| 1   | AB        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 2   | BA        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 3   | BA        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 4   | AB        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 5   | BA        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 6   | AB        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 7   | AB        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 8   | BA        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 9   | BA        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 10  | BA        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 11  | AB        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 12  | AB        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 13  | AB        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 14  | BA        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 15  | AB        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 16  | BA        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 17  | AB        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 18  | BA        | BA         |  |  |  |
| 19  | BA        | AB         |  |  |  |
| 20  | AB        | BA         |  |  |  |
| a One replication per sub   |           | ВА         |  |  |  |

Table 5.6 A serving order for the duo-trio test, balanced reference<sup>a</sup>

|  | Serving order   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Subject  | First set   | Second set   |
| 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>10<br>11<br>12<br>13 | R <sub>A</sub> AB R <sub>B</sub> BA R <sub>A</sub> BA R <sub>B</sub> BA R <sub>B</sub> BA R <sub>B</sub> AB R <sub>A</sub> BA R <sub>B</sub> BA | R <sub>B</sub> BA<br>R <sub>A</sub> BA<br>R <sub>A</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> BA<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>A</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> BA<br>R <sub>B</sub> BA<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB<br>R <sub>B</sub> AB |
|  | R <sub>A</sub> BA   | R <sub>B</sub> AB  |

Table 5.8 A serving order for the triangle test, balanced order<sup>a</sup>

|   | Serving order     |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Subject                                   | First set         | Second set        |
| 1<br>2                                    | ABB<br>BAB        | ABA<br>AAB        |
| 3<br>4<br>5                               | BBA<br>AAB        | BAA<br>BAB        |
| 6<br>7                                    | BBA<br>ABB<br>BAA | ABA<br>AAB<br>BAB |
| 8   | ABA<br>AAB        | BBA<br>ABB        |
| 10<br>11                                  | BAA<br>ABA        | BBA<br>ABB        |
| 12<br>13<br>14                            | BAB<br>AAB<br>BBA | BAA<br>BBA<br>AAB |
| 15<br>16                                  | BAA<br>ABB        | ABB<br>BAA        |
| 17<br>18                                  | ABA<br>BAB        | BAB<br>ABA        |
| <sup>a</sup> One replication per subject. |                   |                   |

**Table 5.9** Minimum numbers of correct judgments to establish significance at various probability levels for paired-difference and duo-trio tests (one-tailed,  $p=\frac{1}{2}$ )<sup>a</sup>

| Number<br>of trials | Probability levels |      |      |      |      |       |       |
|---------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| (n)                 | 0.05               | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.005 | 0.001 |
| 7                   | 7                  | 7    | 7    | 7    | 7    |       |       |
| 8                   | 7                  | 7    | 8    | 8    | 8    | 8     |       |
| 9                   | 8                  | 8    | 8    | 8    | 9    | 9     |       |
| 10                  | 9                  | 9    | 9    | 9    | 10   | 10    | 10    |
| 11                  | 9                  | 9    | 10   | 10   | 10   | 11    | 11    |
| 12                  | 10                 | 10   | 10   | 10   | 11   | 11    | 12    |
| 13                  | 10                 | 11   | 11   | 11   | 12   | 12    | 13    |
| 14                  | 11                 | 11   | 11   | 12   | 12   | 13    | 13    |
| 15                  | 12                 | 12   | 12   | 12   | 13   | 13    | 14    |
| 16                  | 12                 | 12   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14    | 15    |
| 17                  | 13                 | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14   | 15    | 16    |
| 18                  | 13                 | 14   | 14   | 14   | 15   | 15    | 16    |
| 19                  | 14                 | 14   | 15   | 15   | 15   | 16    | 17    |
| 20                  | 15                 | 15   | 15   | 16   | 16   | 17    | 18    |
| 21                  | 15                 | 15   | 16   | 16   | 17   | 17    | 18    |
| 22                  | 16                 | 16   | 16   | 17   | 17   | 18    | 19    |
| 23                  | 16                 | 17   | 17   | 17   | 18   | 19    | 20    |
| 24                  | 17                 | 17   | 18   | 18   | 19   | 19    | 20    |
| 25                  | 18                 | 18   | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20    | 21    |
| 26                  | 18                 | 18   | 19   | 19   | 20   | 20    | 22    |
| 27                  | 19                 | 19   | 19   | 20   | 20   | 21    | 22    |
| 28                  | 19                 | 20   | 20   | 20   | 21   | 22    | 23    |
| 29                  | 20                 | 20   | 21   | 21   | 22   | 22    | 24    |
| 30                  | 20                 | 21   | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23    | 24    |
| 31                  | 21                 | 21   | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24    | 25    |
| 32                  | 22                 | 22   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 24    | 26    |
| 33                  | 22                 | 23   | 23   | 23   | 24   | 25    | 26    |
| 34                  | 23                 | 23   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 25    | 27    |
| 35                  | 23                 | 24   | 24   | 25   | 25   | 26    | 27    |
| 36                  | 24                 | 24   | 25   | 25   | 26   | 27    | 28    |
| 37                  | 24                 | 25   | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27    | 29    |
| 38                  | 25                 | 25   | 26   | 26   | 27   | 28    | 29    |
| 39                  | 26                 | 26   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 28    | 30    |
| 40                  | 26                 | 27   | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29    | 30    |
| 41                  | 27                 | 27   | 27   | 28   | 29   | 30    | 31    |
| 42                  | 27                 | 28   | 28   | 29   | 29   | 30    | 32    |
| 43                  | 28                 | 28   | 29   | 29   | 30   | 31    | 32    |
| 44                  | 28                 | 29   | 29   | 30   | 31   | 31    | 33    |
| 45                  | 29                 | 29   | 30   | 30   | 31   | 32    | 34    |
| 46                  | 30                 | 30   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33    | 34    |
| 47                  | 30                 | 30   | 31   | 31   | 32   | 33    | 35    |
| 48                  | 31                 | 31   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34    | 36    |
| 49                  | 31                 | 32   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 34    | 36    |
| 50                  | 32                 | 32   | 33   | 33   | 34   | 35    | 37    |
| 60                  | 37                 | 38   | 38   | 39   | 40   | 41    | 43    |
| 70                  | 43                 | 43   | 44   | 45   | 46   | 47    | 49    |
| 80                  | 48                 | 49   | 49   | 50   | 51   | 52    | 55    |
| 90                  | 54                 | 54   | 55   | 56   | 57   | 58    | 61    |
| 100                 | 59                 | 60   | 60   | 61   | 63   | 64    | 66    |

<sup>a</sup> Values (X) not appearing in table may be derived from  $X = (z\sqrt{n} + n + 1)/2$ . See text. Reprinted from J. Food Sci. 43, pp. 940–947, 1978. Copyright © by Institute of Food Technologists.

**Table 5.10** Minimum numbers of correct judgments to establish significance at various probability levels for the triangle test (one-tailed,  $p=\frac{1}{2}$ )<sup>a</sup>

| Number           |          | Probability levels |          |          |          |          |          |  |  |
|------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|--|
| of trials<br>(n) | 0.05     | 0.04               | 0.03     | 0.02     | 0.01     | 0.005    | 0.001    |  |  |
| 5                | 4        | 5                  | 5        | 5        | 5        | 5        |          |  |  |
| 6                | 5        | 5                  | 5        | 5        | 6        | 6        |          |  |  |
| 7                | 5        | 6                  | 6        | 6        | 6        | 7        | 7        |  |  |
| 8                | 6        | 6                  | 6        | 6        | 7        | 7        | 8        |  |  |
| 9                | 6        | 7                  | 7        | 7        | 7        | 8        | 8        |  |  |
| 10               | 7        | 7                  | 7        | 7        | 8        | 8        | 9        |  |  |
| 11               | 7        | 7                  | 8        | 8        | 8        | 9        | 10       |  |  |
| 12               | 8        | 8                  | 8        | 8        | 9        | 9        | 10       |  |  |
| 13               | 8        | 8                  | 9        | 9        | 9        | 10       | 11       |  |  |
| 14               | 9        | 9                  | 9        | 9        | 10       | 10       | 11       |  |  |
| 15               | 9        | 9                  | 10       | 10       | 10       | 11       | 12       |  |  |
| 16               | 9        | 10                 | 10       | 10       | 11       | 11       | 12       |  |  |
| 17               | 10       | 10                 | 10       | 11       | 11       | 12       | 13       |  |  |
| 18               | 10       | 11                 | 11       | 11       | 12       | 12       | 13       |  |  |
| 19               | 11       | 11                 | 11       | 12       | 12       | 13       | 14       |  |  |
| 20               | 11       | 11                 | 12       | 12       | 13       | 13       | 14       |  |  |
| 21               | 12       | 12                 | 12       | 13       | 13       | 14       | 15       |  |  |
| 22               | 12       | 12                 | 13       | 13       | 14       | 14       | 15       |  |  |
| 23               | 12       | 13                 | 13       | 13       | 14       | 15       | 16       |  |  |
| 24               | 13       | 13                 | 13       | 14       | 15       | 15       | 16       |  |  |
| 25               | 13       | 14                 | 14       | 14       | 15       | 16       | 17       |  |  |
| 26<br>27         | 14<br>14 | 14<br>14           | 14<br>15 | 15<br>15 | 15<br>16 | 16<br>17 | 17<br>18 |  |  |
| 28               | 15       | 15                 | 15       | 16       | 16       | 17       | 18       |  |  |
| 29               | 15       | 15                 | 16       | 16       | 17       | 17       | 19       |  |  |
| 30               | 15       | 16                 | 16       | 16       | 17       | 18       | 19       |  |  |
| 31               | 16       | 16                 | 16       | 17       | 18       | 18       | 20       |  |  |
| 32               | 16       | 16                 | 17       | 17       | 18       | 19       | 20       |  |  |
| 33               | 17       | 17                 | 17       | 18       | 18       | 19       | 21       |  |  |
| 34               | 17       | 17                 | 18       | 18       | 19       | 20       | 21       |  |  |
| 35               | 17       | 18                 | 18       | 19       | 19       | 20       | 22       |  |  |
| 36               | 18       | 18                 | 18       | 19       | 20       | 20       | 22       |  |  |
| 37               | 18       | 18                 | 19       | 19       | 20       | 21       | 22       |  |  |
| 38               | 19       | 19                 | 19       | 20       | 21       | 21       | 23       |  |  |
| 39               | 19       | 19                 | 20       | 20       | 21       | 22       | 23       |  |  |
| 40               | 19       | 20                 | 20       | 21       | 21       | 22       | 24       |  |  |
| 41               | 20       | 20                 | 20       | 21       | 22       | 23       | 24       |  |  |
| 42               | 20       | 20                 | 21       | 21       | 22       | 23       | 25       |  |  |
| 43               | 20       | 21                 | 21       | 22       | 23       | 24       | 25       |  |  |
| 44               | 21       | 21                 | 22       | 22       | 23       | 24       | 26       |  |  |
| 45               | 21       | 22                 | 22       | 23       | 24       | 24       | 26       |  |  |
| 46               | 22       | 22                 | 22       | 23       | 24       | 25       | 27       |  |  |
| 47               | 22       | 22                 | 23       | 23       | 24       | 25       | 27       |  |  |
| 48               | 22       | 23                 | 23       | 24       | 25       | 26       | 27       |  |  |
| 49               | 23       | 23                 | 24       | 24       | 25       | 26       | 28       |  |  |
| 50               | 23       | 24                 | 24       | 25       | 26       | 26       | 28       |  |  |
| 60               | 27       | 27                 | 28       | 29       | 30       | 31       | 33       |  |  |
| 70               | 31       | 31                 | 32       | 33       | 34       | 35       | 37       |  |  |
| 80               | 35       | 35                 | 36       | 36       | 38       | 39       | 41       |  |  |
| 90               | 38       | 39                 | 40       | 40       | 42       | 43       | 45       |  |  |
| 100              | 42       | 43                 | 43       | 44       | 45       | 47       | 49       |  |  |

<sup>a</sup>Values (X) not appearing in table may be derived from  $X = 0.4714z \sqrt{n} + [(2n + 3)/6]$ . See text. Reprinted from J. Food Sci. 43, pp. 940–947, 1978. Copyright © by Institute of Food Technologists.

### **Descriptive Analysis**

Descriptive analysis is a sensory methodology that provides quantitative descriptions of products, based on the perceptions from a group of qualified subjects. It is a total sensory description, taking into account all sensations that are perceived — visual, auditory, olfactory, kinesthetic, etc. — when the product is evaluated. The word "product" is used here in the figurative sense; the products may be an idea or concept, an ingredient, or a finished product as purchased and used by the consumer. The evaluation also can be total, for example, as in the evaluation of a shaving cream before, during, and after use. Alternatively, the evaluation can focus on only one aspect, such as use. The evaluation is defined in part by the product characteristics as determined by the subjects, and in part by the nature of the problem.

| Table 6.1 Classification of descriptive analysis methods   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Qualitative  | Quantitative   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Flavor Profile <sup>®a</sup><br>Product experts (perfumer, flavorist,<br>brewmaster, etc.)   | Texture Profile <sup>b</sup><br>QDA <sup>c</sup><br>Spectrum analysis <sup>d</sup><br>Free-Choice profiling <sup>e</sup><br>Diagnostic descriptive analysis <sup>f</sup> |  |  |  |  |  |
| <sup>a</sup> Cairncross and Sjöstrom (1950), Caul (1957). <sup>b</sup> Brandt et al. (1963), Szczesniak et al. (1963). <sup>c</sup> Stone et al. (1974, 1980). <sup>d</sup> Meilgaard et al. (1991). <sup>e</sup> Williams and Langron (1984). <sup>f</sup> Cross et al. (1978), Larson-Powers and Pangborn (1978) | , Lyons (1987).  |  |  |  |  |  |

MEMO TO: Project Manager - Canned Soups

FROM: Flavor Profile Panel Leader

SUBJECT: Flavor Profile Report of Tomato Soups

#### INTRODUCTION:

Samples of canned condensed Alpha Tomato Soup and Beta Tomato Soup were profiled during five panel sessions. The objective was to characterize the two market leaders in order to provide sensory data for management to select a flavor target for a new store brand soup line. For the study, a sufficient number of identically coded samples of each brand were purchased locally. Expiration dates for the two brands were similar. Samples were evaluated for aroma, flavor and aftertaste. Differences in appearance and texture were also noted. Tabular profiles are attached.

#### SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS:

 In aroma and flavor both tomato soup brands exhibited early tomato identity with the Alpha brand having a more intense fresh tomato identity and the Beta brand described as burnt or scorched tomato.

• The development of the tomato identity in Alpha's product was supported by other vegetable and spice notes to produce a moderately full and blended soup. Beta brand was more disjointed in the flavor with the tomato aromatic suppressed by the starchy character of the soup.

 In Alpha brand the salivating mouthfeel with a slight MSG character contributed to a quick washout of flavor and a shorter aftertaste. In Beta the pepper burn lingered into the aftertaste along with a drying mouthfeel.

 Both soups had very slight off-characteristics; metallic in Alpha soup and bitter and musty in the Beta product.

• The appearance and texture of the two soups were different. Alpha soup was dark red in color with dispersed oil and slightly pulpy. The Beta brand was thick and particulate with a burnt red-orange color. The Beta brand was also difficult to heat as it had a tendency to burn.

### FLAVOR PROFILES OF CONDENSED TOMATO SOUPS RECONSTITUTED WITH SPRING WATER

| ALPHA<br>CODE: 23567APR92   |  | BETA<br>CODE: 54K8JUN92  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>AROMA</b> (160°F - 150   | )°F)   |  |   |
| Amplitude 2   |  | Amplitude 1 1/2  |   |
| Tomato, cooked fresh Cooked vegetables Sour, citrus-like Briny Spice Complex, Black pepper  | 2<br>1 1/2<br>1<br>1   | Tomato puree, scorched<br>Starchy, cooked pasta<br>Briny<br>Sour, fatty acid, cheesy<br>Cooked vegetables                                      | 1 1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1<br>1/2<br>1/2                               |
| Other: Starchy, Non-i   | fat  | Other: Spice complex, mus  | ty  |
| FLAVOR (150°F - 140   | )°F)   |  |   |
| Amplitude   | 2  | Amplitude 1  |   |
| Tomato, cooked fresh, slight green Sweet Cooked vegetables Sour Salty Spice Complex, Black pepper Salivating Metallic Pepper bite MSG | 2<br>1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1<br>1/2<br>1/2<br>1/2<br>1/2 | Starchy, cooked pasta Tomato, stewed, burnt paste Starchy mouthfeel Sweet Salty Cheesy, fatty acid sour Sour Bitter Pepper bite and burn Musty | 1<br>1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1/2<br>1 1/2<br>1/2<br>142<br>1/2 |
| Other:Starchy, oily plus mouthfeel  | L  | Other: Spice complex, or plus mouthfeel  | 1y  |
| AFTERTASTE  |  |  |   |
| Tomato, sour  |  | Sour, pepper burn, drying, starchy, tomato   |   |
| COLOR   |  | Scar City, comaco  |   |
| Dark red,oily sheen<br>some pulp and skin p   | oieces   | Burnt red-orange   |   |
| TEXTURE   |  |  |   |
| Thin, smooth, slight pulpy  |  | Thick, particulate, slight tacky   |   |

Table 6.2 Relationship between textual parameters and popular nomenclature<sup>a</sup>

| Mechanical characteristics  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Primary parameters  | Secondary parameters   | Popular terms   |  |  |  |  |
| Hardness<br>Cohesiveness  | Brittleness<br>Chewiness<br>Gumminess                                | Soft, firm, hard<br>Crumbly, Crunchy, brittle<br>Tender, chewy, tough<br>Short, mealy, pasty, gummy |  |  |  |  |
| Viscosity<br>Elasticity<br>Adhesiveness   |  | Thin, viscous<br>Plastic, elastic<br>Sticky, tacky, gooey   |  |  |  |  |
|   | Geometrical characteristics  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Class   | Examples   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Particle size and shape<br>Particle shape and orientation   | Gritty, grainy, coarse, etc.<br>Fibrous, cellular, crystalline, etc. |   |  |  |  |  |
|   | Other characteristics  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Primary parameters  | Secondary parameters   | Popular terms   |  |  |  |  |
| Moisture content<br>Fat content   | Oiliness<br>Greasiness   | Dry, moist, wet, watery<br>Oily<br>Greasy   |  |  |  |  |
| <sup>a</sup> Reprinted from <i>J. Food Sci.</i> , 28(4), (1963), 388. Copyright © by Institute of Food Technologists. See text for further explanation. |  |   |  |  |  |  |

TABLE 5-Standard hardness scale.<sup>a</sup>

| Scale<br>Value | Product         | Type/Brand                                       | Manufacturer/<br>Distributor    | Sample Size | Temperature |
|----------------|-----------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1.0            | cream cheese    | Philadelphia                                     | Kraft                           | ½-in. cube  | 40 to 45°F  |
| 2.5            | egg white       | hard-cooked, 5<br>min                            |                                 | %-in. cube  | room        |
| 4.5            | American cheese | yellow, pasteurized                              | Land O' Lakes                   | ½-in. cube  | 40 to 45°F  |
| 6.0            | olive           | stuffed, spanish<br>type, pimento<br>removed     | Goya Foods                      | 1 piece     | room        |
| 7.0            | frankfurter     | beef franks,<br>cooked 5 min in<br>boiling water | Hebrew National<br>Kosher Foods | ½-in. slice | room        |
| 9.5            | peanut          | Planter, cocktail<br>type in vacuum<br>tin       | Nabisco Brands                  | 1 piece     | room        |
|                | carrot [7]      | uncooked, fresh,<br>unpeeled                     |                                 | ½-in. slice | room        |
| 11.0           | almond          | Planter, shelled                                 | Nabisco Brands                  | 1 piece     | room        |
| 14.5           | hard candy      | Life Savers                                      | Nabisco Brands                  | 1 piece     | room        |

<sup>a</sup> Printed with permission. See Ref 7. NOTE: 1 in. = 25.4 mm. 1°F = -17.2°C.

#### I. First Chew

Place sample between molar teeth, bite and evaluate for:

- 1. Hardness: Force required to bite through sample.
- 2. Adhesiveness: Degree sample sticks to teeth.
- 3. Cohesiveness: Degree to which sample deforms rather than ruptures.
- 4. Smoothness: Degree to which sample is free of grits and/or grains.

#### II. Chewdown

Place sample between molar teeth, chew and evaluate for:

- 1. Chewiness: Number of chews necessary to prepare sample for swallowing.
- 2. Gumminess: Amount of energy required to disintegrate sample to a state ready for swallowing.
- 3. Adhesiveness: Degree to which sample sticks to (a or b) during chewing.
  - a. Roof of Mouth (10-15 chews)
  - b. Teeth
- 4. Cohesiveness of mass: Degree to which sample holds together.
- 5. Denseness: Compactness of sample.
- 6. Moisture Absorption: Degree to which sample absorbs saliva.
  - a. Rate
  - b. Amount
- 7. Crystalline: Degree to which sample is granular.

#### III. Breakdown

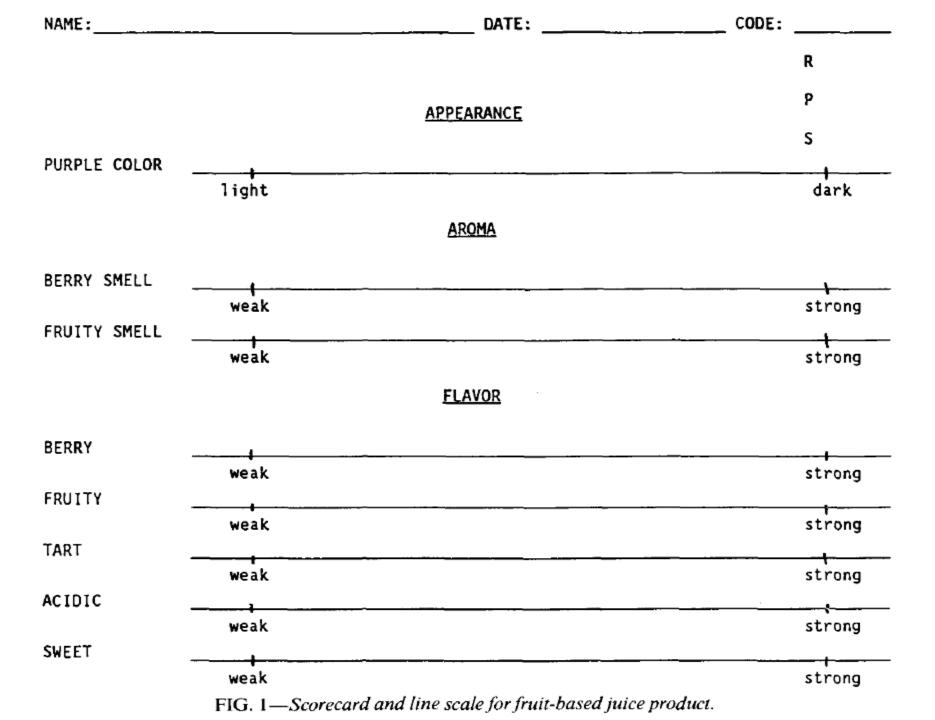
Description of breakdown: Describe changes occurring during breakdown.

#### IV. Residual

After swallowing sample evaluate for:

- Ease: Degree to which prepared sample is readily swallowed.
- 2. Chalkiness: Degree to which mouth feels dry or chalky after all of sample has been swallowed.
- 3. Grittiness: Degree to which mouth contains small particles after all of sample has been swallowed.
- 4. Toothpacking: Degree to which sample remains in teeth.

The development of the method evolved from a number of considerations (QDA), including: responsive to all the sensory properties of a product; reliance on a limited number of subjects for each test; subjects qualified before participation; able to evaluate multiple products in individual booths; use a language development process free from leader influence; be quantitative and use a repeated trials design; have a useful data analysis system.



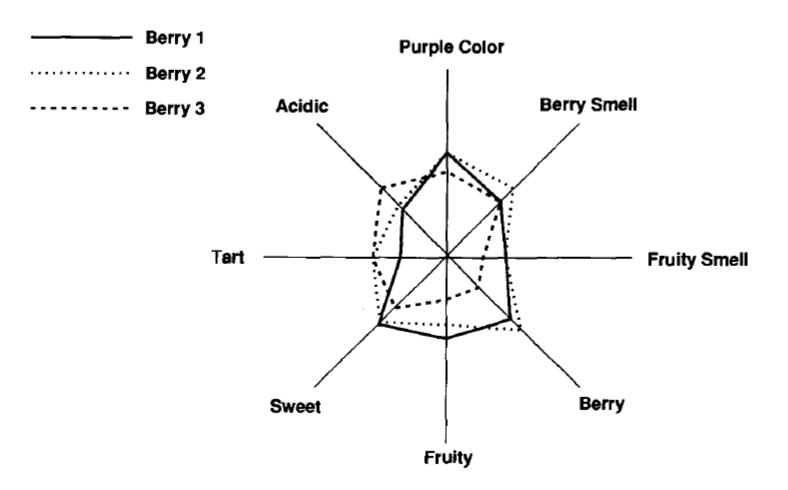


FIG. 2—Aroma and flavor characteristics for fruit-based products. Graphical representation of the results shown in Table 1. Measuring from the center point along the line is the mean intensity value for that attribute.

## **Applications for Descriptive Analysis**

- 1. Monitor competition. It is especially important to know in what ways competitive products differ; such information can be used to anticipate changes and to identify product weaknesses. Without such information, it is relatively easy to initiate product reformulation efforts based on circumstantial evidence that a change in market share reflects a changed competitive product. The descriptive information provides a primary basis and more precise direction for any proposed changes.
- 2. **Storage testing**. In a storage test in which product changes occur over time, descriptive analysis at the start of the test provides a basis on which changes can be compared. A major problem in all storage tests is the availability of control product throughout the study. A product placed in some type of controlled environment, for example, a freezer, does not prevent change, and providing fresh product for comparison with the stored product introduces other sources of variability.

- 3. **Product development**. Descriptive analysis is used to delineate a target product, determine whether experimental formulations match that target, and provide precise sensory information about the finished product. This latter function could be used to support advertising as well as be of value in setting quality control specifications. It also can be used in evaluating the usefulness of a new ingredient.
- 4. **Quality control**. Descriptive analysis could be used to identify the sensory limits for a product.
- 5. **Physical/chemical-sensory relationships**. Descriptive analysis is especially helpful in identifying specific product differences that can be related to differences in various instrument and chemical measures. Once identified, these differences can be explored in more detail, again using the descriptive model.

TABLE 1—Differences among four descriptive analysis methods.

| Method             | Panel Leader  | Number of<br>Panelists   | Facilities  | Screening   | Time Required<br>Training/Test  |
|--------------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| Flavor<br>profile  | Selected from the trained panel. Results are included in final consensus flavor profile if leader also acts as panelist.  | min of 4   | Quite, well-lit,<br>odor-free<br>panel<br>room;<br>round table<br>suggested<br>to facilitate<br>discussion.   | Basic taste, odors, ranking, and integrative discrimination skills plus a personal interview to determine interest and availability.                          | For training, ~6 months with daily practice. For product, 1 to 3 sessions. For testing, ~15 min/sample                        |
| QDA <sup>2</sup>   | Sensory professional<br>functions as<br>panel<br>administrator<br>and discussion<br>coordinator, but<br>is not a subject. | 10-12;<br>however,<br>some tests<br>may use<br>as few as<br>8 or as<br>many as<br>15 | Language development, training done in conference- style room with appropriate lighting and environment controls. Data collection in sensory test booths. | likers;<br>discrimination<br>testing with<br>products,<br>progressively<br>more difficult (20<br>to 30 trials<br>maximum).                                    | Total: 2 weeks,<br>8 to 10 h, 3<br>to 5 min/<br>product   |
| Spectrum<br>method | Sensory professional trained in descriptive analysis and as a panelist. Or, a skilled panelist trained as a panel leader. | 12 to 15   | Booths for<br>evaluation.<br>Room with<br>round table<br>for<br>discussion.<br>Quiet,<br>controlled<br>atmosphere<br>and<br>appropriate                   | Prescreening, acuity screening, and interview to screen for availability, interest, good health, acuity in sensory dimension, scaling, and positive attitude. | One modality<br>(for<br>example,<br>flavor) 3 to<br>4 months<br>total (60 to<br>80 h).<br>Testing 5 to<br>15 min/<br>product. |
| Texture<br>profile | Sensory professional trained as a texture profilist with necessary skills to schedule and conduct panels.                 | 6 to 10  | lighting. Quiet room with appropriate lighting. Round table for discussion and evaluation.  | Tests to discriminate textural attributes and an interview.   | 4 to 6 months<br>(90 to 100<br>h). Testing 5<br>to 15 min/<br>product.  |

<sup>a</sup> QDA is quantitative descriptive analysis.

| Name  |                            | Code               | Date  |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Option A  Evaluate both product make a choice.      | s starting from t          | he left. Check the | box for the product you prefer. You must                  |
|   | 347 🗆                      | 602 🗆              |   |
| Option B Evaluate both product make a choice.       | s starting from t<br>347 □ | he left. Check the | box for the product you prefer. You must  No preference □ |
| Option C<br>Evaluate both product<br>make a choice. | Like bot                   | th equally         | box for the product you prefer. You must                  |

Example of the scorecard for the paired-preference test, showing Option A, which limits the subjects to two choices; Option B, which includes a no-preference choice for the subject; and Option C, which includes two additional choices.

**Table 5.11** Minimum numbers of agreeing judgments necessary to establish significance at various probability levels for the paired-preference test (two-tailed,  $p=\frac{1}{2}$ )<sup>a</sup>

| Number<br>of trials |          |          |          | Probability l | evels    |          |          |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (n)                 | 0.05     | 0.04     | 0.03     | 0.02          | 0.01     | 0.005    | 0.001    |
| 7                   | 7        | 7        | 7        | 7             |          |          |          |
| 8                   | 8        | 8        | 8        | 8             | 8        |          |          |
| 9                   | 8        | 8        | 9        | 9             | 9        | 9        |          |
| 10                  | 9        | 9        | 9        | 10            | 10       | 10       |          |
| 11                  | 10       | 10       | 10       | 10            | 11       | 11       | 11       |
| 12                  | 10       | 10       | 11       | 11            | 11       | 12       | 12       |
| 13                  | 11       | 11       | 11       | 12            | 12       | 12       | 13       |
| 14                  | 12       | 12       | 12       | 12            | 13       | 13       | 14       |
| 15                  | 12       | 12       | 13       | 13            | 13       | 14       | 14       |
| 16                  | 13       | 13       | 13       | 14            | 14       | 14       | 15       |
| 17                  | 13       | 14       | 14       | 14            | 15       | 15       | 16       |
| 18                  | 14       | 14       | 15       | 15            | 15       | 16       | 17       |
| 19                  | 15       | 15       | 15       | 15            | 16       | 16       | 17       |
| 20                  | 15       | 16       | 16       | 16            | 17       | 17       | 18       |
| 21                  | 16       | 16       | 16       | 17            | 17       | 18       | 19       |
| 22                  | 17       | 17       | 17       | 17            | 18       | 18       | 19       |
| 23                  | 17       | 17       | 18       | 18            | 19       | 19       | 20       |
| 24                  | 18       | 18       | 18       | 19            | 19       | 20       | 21       |
| 25                  | 18       | 19       | 19       | 19            | 20       | 20       | 21       |
| 26                  | 19       | 19       | 19       | 20            | 20       | 21       | 22       |
| 27                  | 20       | 20       | 20       | 20            | 21       | 22       | 23       |
| 28<br>29            | 20<br>21 | 20<br>21 | 21<br>21 | 21<br>22      | 22<br>22 | 22<br>23 | 23<br>24 |
| 30                  | 21       | 22       | 22       | 22            | 22       | 23<br>24 | 25       |
| 31                  | 22       | 22       | 22       | 23            | 24       | 24       | 25       |
| 32                  | 23       | 23       | 23       | 23            | 24       | 25       | 25<br>26 |
| 33                  | 23       | 23       | 24       | 24            | 25       | 25       | 27       |
| 34                  | 24       | 24       | 24       | 25            | 25       | 26       | 27       |
| 35                  | 24       | 25       | 25       | 25            | 26       | 27       | 28       |
| 36                  | 25       | 25       | 25       | 26            | 27       | 27       | 29       |
| 37                  | 25       | 26       | 26       | 26            | 27       | 28       | 29       |
| 38                  | 26       | 26       | 27       | 27            | 28       | 29       | 30       |
| 39                  | 27       | 27       | 27       | 28            | 28       | 29       | 31       |
| 40                  | 27       | 27       | 28       | 28            | 29       | 30       | 31       |
| 41                  | 28       | 28       | 28       | 29            | 30       | 30       | 32       |
| 42                  | 28       | 29       | 29       | 29            | 30       | 31       | 32       |
| 43                  | 29       | 29       | 30       | 30            | 31       | 32       | 33       |
| 44                  | 29       | 30       | 30       | 30            | 31       | 32       | 34       |
| 45                  | 30       | 30       | 31       | 31            | 32       | 33       | 34       |
| 46                  | 31       | 31       | 31       | 32            | 33       | 33       | 35       |
| 47                  | 31       | 31       | 32       | 32            | 33       | 34       | 36       |
| 48                  | 32       | 32       | 32       | 33            | 34       | 35       | 36       |
| 49                  | 32       | 33       | 33       | 34            | 34       | 35       | 37       |
| 50                  | 33       | 33       | 34       | 34            | 35       | 36       | 37       |
| 60                  | 39       | 39       | 39       | 40            | 41       | 42       | 44       |
| 70                  | 44       | 45       | 45       | 46            | 47       | 48       | 50       |
| 80                  | 50       | 50       | 51       | 51            | 52       | 53       | 56       |
| 90                  | 55       | 56       | 56       | 57            | 58       | 59       | 61       |
| 100                 | 61       | 61       | 62       | 63            | 64       | 65       | 67       |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Values (X) not appearing in table may be derived from  $X = (z \sqrt{n} + n + 1)/2$ . See text. Reprinted from J. Food Sci. **43**, pp. 940–947, 1978. Copyright © by Institute of Food Technologists.