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Fluid fertilizers — Preliminary visual examination and preparation of samples for physical testing

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ISO 10249:1996(E)

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Foreword

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International Standard ISO 10249 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 134, *Fertilizers and soil conditioners*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Physical properties*.

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Fluid fertilizers — Preliminary visual examination and preparation of samples for physical testing

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies both a procedure for preliminary examination of a single sample as received for testing, and a procedure for preparing a test sample by blending and reduction of a series of samples representative of a consignment or a bulk delivery of fluid fertilizer.

NOTE — This complements the corresponding standard for solid fertilizers (ISO 8358).

2 Requirements

2.1 General

It is essential that the physical examination and any physical tests of fluid fertilizers be made as soon as possible after sampling because of their sensitivity to both time and temperature.

2.2 Condition of container

Any defects in the laboratory sample container or any visible leakage shall be recorded. If it is possible that the contents have been affected, the sample shall be rejected.

2.3 Opening of container

All packing materials (e.g. sawdust) and other debris shall be removed from the outer surface of the container, particularly around the closure. The container shall be opened carefully so as not to disturb the contents. The examination shall be carried out as rapidly as possible so as to minimize possible evaporation losses.

3 Procedure

3.1 Procedures for solutions

3.1.1 Visual examination

3.1.1.1 Ullage

Record the approximate ullage (i.e. the air-space in the container above the contents of the container), expressed as a percentage of the total capacity of the container.

3.1.1.2 Surface

Record the presence of any films or incrustations and their extent. For analytical control purposes, when incrustation or surface matter is present it may be necessary to disperse it and include it in the sample for testing.

3.1.1.3 Separation of phases

Record any separation of the sample into phases, noting the volume and nature of these phases (see 3.2.1.5).

3.1.1.4 Clarity

Record the clarity, colour and temperature of the sample.