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Third edition
2021-06

Determination of the ultimate aerobic biodegradability of plastic materials in an aqueous medium — Method by analysis of evolved carbon dioxide

Évaluation de la biodégradabilité aérobie ultime des matériaux plastiques en milieu aqueux — Méthode par analyse du dioxyde de carbone libéré



Reference number
ISO 14852:2021(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Environmental aspects*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 249, *Plastics*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 14852:2018), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- in the Scope and [Clause 8](#), soil and compost have been excluded for the inoculums used in this document;
- in [8.4](#), number of flasks for checking the inoculum activity have been changed from three to two;
- the validity criteria has been revised to conform with ISO 14851.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

With the increasing use of plastics, their recovery and disposal have become a major issue. As a first priority, recovery should be promoted. Biodegradable plastics are now emerging as one of the options available to solve such environmental problems. Plastic materials, such as products or packaging, which are sent to composting facilities should be potentially biodegradable. Therefore, it is very important to determine the potential biodegradability of such materials and to obtain an indication of their potential biodegradability.