STANDARD **6669**

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Green and roasted coffee — Determination of free-flow bulk density of whole beans (Routine method)

Café vert et café torréfié — Détermination de la masse volumique sans tassement des grains entiers (méthode pratique)

Reference number
ISO 6669:1995(E)

Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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Introduction

Knowledge of the bulk density of green and of roasted whole coffee beans is important for their trade, since it determines the volume occupied by a given mass of beans, which is a factor in their packaging, storage and transport.

Bulk density is defined as the ratio of mass to volume occupied. Measurement of the mass which occupies a fixed known volume under precise conditions of filling is a widely practised technique for determining the bulk density of both green and roasted coffee beans. The bulk density of coffee beans determined in this manner will vary according to the mass, size and shape of the individual beans and, to a lesser extent, their moisture content at the time of measurement. The filling of a container of known volume in free fall will be influenced by the free-flowing conditions established in the method; the accuracy of the method is influenced by a correct levelling procedure of the beans in the container.

Botanic, horticultural, processing, storage and handling factors, including the effect of age, variously influence the bulk density of green coffee beans, whilst their roasting behaviour and conditions additionally influence the bulk density of the roasted beans.

The method adopted for a routine method needs to be as simple as possible and subject as little as possible to human error in use; the equipment should be easy to make wherever coffee is produced, sold or bought.