



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
**SIST EN 1235:1998/A1:2003**  
**01-oktober-2003**

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**Trdna gnojila - Sejalni preskus**

Solid fertilizers - Test sieving

Feste Düngemittel - Siebanalyse

Engrais solides - Tamisage de contrôle

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN 1235:1995/A1:2003**

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**ICS:**

65.080                      Gnojila                                      Fertilizers

**SIST EN 1235:1998/A1:2003                                      en**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

**EN 1235:1995/A1**

April 2003

ICS 65.080

English version

## Solid fertilizers - Test sieving

Engrais solides - Tamisage de contrôle

Feste Düngemittel - Siebanalyse

This amendment A1 modifies the European Standard EN 1235:1995; it was approved by CEN on 17 January 2003.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for inclusion of this amendment into the relevant national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This amendment exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

EN 1235:1995/A1:2003 (E)

## Foreword

This document (EN 1235:1995/A1:2003) has been prepared by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 260 "Fertilizers and liming materials", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2003, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2003.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

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*Clause 1*

Replace "Annex ZA gives further information on the expression of the results of test sieving" with "Annex ZA gives guidance on the interpretation of sieving test data".

*Replace the existing annex ZA (informative) with the following text:*

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## Annex ZA (informative)

### Interpretation of sieving test data

#### ZA.1 Determination of the size distribution

In the following, index sieve numbers  $n$  increase with increasing sieve aperture and index  $0$  refers to the receiver.

The material retained on receiver,  $x_0$ , and each of the individual sieves,  $x_n$ , given as mass fraction in percent, can be obtained from equation (ZA.1):

$$x_n = \frac{m_n}{m_t} \times 100 \quad (\text{ZA.1})$$

where

$m_n$  is the mass retained on sieve  $n$ , in grams;

$m_t$  is the total mass of the test sample, in grams ( $m_t = m_0 + m_1 + \dots + m_n$ ).

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#### ZA.2 Definition of the cumulative undersize

The cumulative undersize  $c_n$ , given as mass fraction in percent, is defined by equation (ZA.2):

$$c_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \quad (\text{ZA.2})$$

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where

$c_n$  is the cumulative undersize for sieve  $n$ , given as mass fraction in percent;

$x_i$  is the mass fraction in percent retained on sieve  $i$ .

#### ZA.3 Definition and determination of the mass median diameter $d_{50}$

The mass median diameter,  $d_{50}$ , is the theoretical sieve opening of such size that 50 % of the particles, by mass, are larger and 50 % are smaller.

The mass median diameter,  $d_{50}$ , in millimetres, can be obtained by equation (ZA.3):

$$d_{50} = z_n + \frac{(50 - c_n)}{(c_{n+1} - c_n)} \times (z_{n+1} - z_n) \quad (\text{ZA.3})$$

where

$z_n$  is the nominal sieve aperture size for which the cumulative undersize is nearest but below 50 % (mass fraction), in millimetres;

$z_{n+1}$  is the nominal sieve aperture size for which the cumulative undersize is nearest but above 50 % (mass fraction), in millimetres;

$c_n$  is the cumulative undersize for sieve  $n$ , expressed as a mass fraction in percent;

$c_{n+1}$  is the cumulative undersize for sieve  $n+1$ , expressed as a mass fraction in percent.

$z_{n+1}-z_n$  should be of minimum value using appropriate sieves from the allowed sieve series.

This calculation of  $d_{50}$  assumes that there is a linear relationship between sieve sizes  $z_n$  and  $z_{n+1}$  and the cumulative undersizes  $c_n$  and  $c_{n+1}$ .

#### ZA.4 Definition and determination of the granulometric spread $\Delta_{xy}$

Granulometric spread  $\Delta_{xy}$  is the dimension, in millimetres, resulting from equation (ZA.4):

$$\Delta_{xy} = d_x - d_y \quad (\text{ZA.4})$$

where

$d_x$  is the theoretical sieve aperture size in millimetres for which the cumulative undersize is  $x\%$  (mass fraction);

$d_y$  is the theoretical sieve aperture size in millimetres for which the cumulative undersize is  $y\%$  (mass fraction);

with  $x > y$  and both dimensions having been measured and calculated by the same method as the one used to determine the mass median particle diameter. For a correct interpretation of the results, there has to be at least one sieve with a sieve aperture size less than  $d_y$ , and one with a sieve aperture size above  $d_x$ .

However, it is more convenient to use a single definition for the granulometric spread. It is recommended that this is based on the spread over two standard deviations around the mass median. In this case the granulometric spread, in millimetres, is defined by equation (ZA.5):

$$\Delta = d_{84} - d_{16} \quad (\text{ZA.5})$$

where

$d_{84}$  is the theoretical sieve aperture size in millimetres for which the cumulative undersize is 84 % (mass fraction);

$d_{16}$  is the theoretical sieve aperture size in millimetres for which the cumulative undersize is 16 % (mass fraction).

NOTE The above is based on the assumption that, in general, for fertilizers, the particle size distribution is Gaussian. In some cases the Weibull distribution can be more accurate and the  $x$  and  $y$  dimensions can be changed.

#### ZA.5 Definition and determination of the Granulometric Spread Index GSI

The Granulometric Spread Index  $\text{GSI}_{xy}$  is defined as the ratio of granulometric spread to mass median particle diameter given by equation (ZA.6):

$$\text{GSI}_{xy} = \frac{\Delta_{xy}}{2d_{50}} \times 100 \quad (\text{ZA.6})$$

The determination relies therefore on the prior determination of  $d_{50}$  and  $\Delta_{xy}$  as defined in ZA.3 and ZA.4.

However, for practical purposes, since a granulometric spread  $\Delta$  (without indices) has been defined, it is appropriate that the same is applied to granulometric spread index which would then be defined as follows:

$$\text{GSI} = \frac{\Delta}{2d_{50}} \times 100 \quad (\text{ZA.7})$$

## EN 1235:1995/A1:2003 (E)

**ZA.6 Practical calculation and approximations: the distribution curve****ZA.6.1 General**

For practical purposes and in order to avoid numerous sieving, the interpretation of sieving data can be based on the cumulative size distribution curve. Such a curve can be smoothly plotted from the individual sieving results, either manually or by computer.

**ZA.6.2 Manual plotting**

An example of a manually smoothed plot is given in Figure ZA.1. Introduction of the theoretical sieve sizes  $d_{16}$ ,  $d_{50}$  and  $d_{84}$  allows interpolation for corresponding cumulative masses.

**ZA.6.3 Computer plotting**

A computer may be used to plot a smooth curve through the points as in Figure ZA.1. In addition, a "curve" can be drawn as a linear graph using actual measurements and introducing the theoretical sieve sizes  $d_{16}$ ,  $d_{50}$  and  $d_{84}$ , see Figure ZA.2.

Superimposition of the two graphs, which can be done with current spreadsheet software, gives the result in Figure ZA.3. The same software allows picking any one of the theoretical sieve sizes and modifying it so as to superimpose the linear diagram with the smoothed one thus giving directly the theoretical sieve sizes  $d_{16}$ ,  $d_{50}$  and  $d_{84}$  as in Table ZA.1.

**ZA.6.4 Example**

The example given below is based on actual results.

NOTE These practical methods have the advantage of avoiding regression analysis for equation calculations necessary to establish the masses that would correspond to the theoretical sieve sizes  $d_{16}$ ,  $d_{50}$  and  $d_{84}$  thus avoiding assumptions whether the particle size distribution is Gaussian or a Weibull.

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**Table ZA.1 — Actual sieve analysis**

Sieve aperture size mm	Cumulative mass fraction passing a given sieve %
5,0	100,0
4,0	93,3
3,35	80,0
2,80	41,5
2,40	16,0
2,0	6,5
1,40	2,0

Instead of drawing the curve manually, there is, however, the possibility of using a computer simulation.

By taking the actual results and having drawn the interpolated smoothed curve as in Figure ZA.1, it is quite simple to use another set of numbers having both the actual sieve sizes and the three theoretical ones and draw a linear diagram as in Figure ZA.2. The superimposition procedure allows the operator to fit, in Figure ZA.3, the curve of Figure ZA.2 as nearly as possible to the curve of Figure ZA.1.

This gives the results following Table ZA.2:



Table ZA.2 — Interpolated results

Series 1 (see Figure ZA.1)		Series 2 (see Figure ZA.2)	
Sieves	Cumulative percent	Sieves	Cumulative percent
1,4	2	1,4	2
2	6,5	2	6
2,4	16	2,4	16
2,8	41,5	2,8	41,5
3,35	80	2,9	50
4	93,3	3,35	80
5	100	3,43	84
-	-	4	93,3
-	-	5	100

Series 2:

$d_{16} = 2,40$ ;  $d_{50} = 2,90$  and  $d_{84} = 3,43$

$\Rightarrow \Delta = 1,03$  and  $GSI = 17,76$

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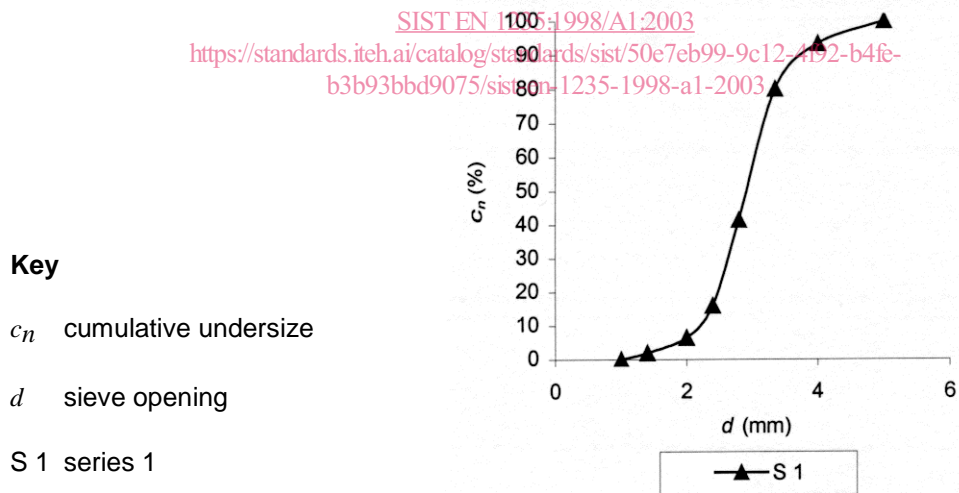


Figure ZA.1— Series 1