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## Standard Terminology for Cotton Fibers<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 7139; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This standard is the compilation of all terminology developed by Subcommittee D-13.11 on Cotton Fibers.

1.2 This terminology is unique to the Cotton Fibers industry. Meanings of the same terms used outside the industry can be found in other compilations or in dictionaries of general usage.

1.3 In addition to being a specialized dictionary, D 7139 is also a tool for managing the Subcommittee's terminology. This includes finding, eliminating, and preventing redundancies, that is, where two or more terms relating to the same concept are defined in different words.

1.4 Terms listed are under the jurisdiction of Subcommittee D13.11.

1.5 For definitions of other textile terms see Terminology D 123.

### 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles.

D 1440 Test Method for Length and Length Distribution of Cotton Fibers (Array Method)

D 1441 Practice for Sampling Cotton Fibers for Testing

D 1442 Test Method of Maturity of Cotton Fibers (Sodium Hydroxide Swelling and Polarized Light Procedures)

D 1445 Test Method for Elongation of Cotton Fibers (Flat Bundle Method)

D 1447 Test Method for Length and Length Uniformity of Cotton Fibers by Fibrograph Measurement

D 1448 Test Method for Micronaire Reading of Cotton Fibers

D 1464 Test Method for Differential Dyeing Behavior of Cotton

D 1684 Practice for Lighting Cotton Classing Rooms for Color Grading

D 2495 Test Method for Moisture in Cotton by Oven-Drying

D 2812 Test Method for Non-Lint Content of Cotton

D 3025 Practice for Standardizing Cotton Fiber Test Results by Use of Calibration Cotton Standards

D 5332 Test Method for Fiber Length and Length Distribution of Cotton Fibers

D 5426 Practices for Visual Inspection and Grading of Fabrics Used for Inflatable Restraints

D 5867 Test methods for Measurement of Physical Properties of Cotton Fibers by High Volume Instruments.

### 3. Terminology

**A-tuft**, *n*—a single-pass process for aligning hook free fibers on the Fibroliner FL-101. **D 5332**

**amount**, *n*—*in cotton fiber testing with the Length Analyzer*, a measure of the thickness or pneumatic density of the test beard, proportional to the number of fibers present at various distances from the base of the specimen clamp jaws. **D 5867**

**amount**, *n*—*in cotton length testing with the Fibrograph*, a measure of the thickness, or optical density, of the test beard, proportional to the number of fibers present at various distances from the comb(s). **D 1447**

**B-tuft**, *n*—a two-pass process for aligning hooked fibers on the Fibroliner FL-101. **D 5332**

**blending plan**, *n*—the instructions for mixing fibers during specimen preparation. **D 5332**

**calibration cotton standards**, *n*—cotton samples taken from blended bulk source on which fiber properties have been determined under the International Calibration Cotton Standards Program. **D 1448, D 3025, D 5867**

**coefficient of length variation**, *n*—a measure of fiber length distribution. **D 1440, D 5332**

<sup>1</sup> This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D13 on Textiles and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D13.11 on Cotton Fibers.

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- color grading**, *n*—the act of identifying a specimen by a color grade or color score that is specific to the color and the material graded. **D 1684**
- color lamp**, *n*—in *color determination of cotton with a Color Meter*, a lamp with a specific energy output function used in conjunction with special tristimulus filters to obtain a desired response function. **D 5867**
- color meter**, *n*—an instrument which measures the fiber sample color as presented in the viewing window, in terms of the tristimulus values Y and Z and transmits these values to the IC/TC for further processing. **D 5867**
- color space**, *n*—specific to this standard, the daylight color of opaque specimens are represented by points in a space in terms of three color scales: reflectance,  $R_b$ , and the chromaticity coordinates for redness or greenness,  $\pm a$ , and yellowness or blueness,  $\pm b$ .
- comber/brusher**, *n*—an instrument which prepares the test beard of fibers for length, length uniformity, strength, and elongation measurements by combing the test specimen to remove loose or unclamped fibers and paralleling the individually clamped fibers, and by brushing the clamped fibers to remove fiber crimp and smooth the test beard of cotton. **D 5867**
- control limits**, *n*—predetermined ranges based on the variability of past observations between which the instrument data for a test must fall to be considered valid. **D 5867**
- cotton**, *n*—a vegetable seed fiber consisting of unicellular hairs attached to the seed of several species of the genus *Gossypium* of the family Malvaceae. **D 1445**
- cotton color diagram**, *n*—a diagram showing the color ranges of standards officially established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the various grades of cotton in relation to scales of reflectance.  $R_b$ , on the vertical axis, and yellowness,  $+ b$ , on the horizontal axis. **D 5867**
- cotton maturity**, *n*—the degree of fiber wall development. **D 1442**
- cotton waste**, *n*—material removed from seed cotton, ginned lint, or stock in process by any cleaning or processing machinery and usually consisting of undesirable fibers or a mixture of cotton fibers with foreign matter. **D 2495**
- differential dyeing behavior**, *n*—of *cotton*, the tendency of cotton fibers to absorb and retain selectively varying proportions of different dyes from a binary dye bath. **D 1464**
- elevator**, *n*—a general term describing a mechanical device on the Motion Control, Inc. Fiber Information System which moves the specimen clamp while preparing the specimen or while taking a length/uniformity index or strength/elongation measurement. **D 5867**
- elongation at breaking force**, *n*—in *fiber strength testing of cotton*, the elongation corresponding to the maximum force, and expressed as a percentage of the 1/8-in. (3.2-mm) gage length. **D 1445, D 5867**
- Fiberweigh**, *n*—an instrument having a capacity for weighing a 51-grain (3.30-g) specimen with a sensitivity of at least 0.2 % of the mass being weighed. **D 5867**
- fibrogram**, *n*—in *testing cotton fibers for length*, the curve representing the second cumulation of the length distribution of the fibers sensed by the length measuring instrument in scanning the fiber board. **D 1447, D 5867**
- Fibronaire**, *n*—an instrument which determines the micronaire reading of raw cotton fibers using the “porous-plug” air flow technique. **D 5867**
- foreign matter**, *n*—in cotton, non-lint material commonly referred to as waste or trash such as dust, sand, seed-coat fragments, leaves, and stems normally present in raw and partially processed cotton. **D 2812, D 5426**
- ginned lint**, *n*—cotton fibers that have been separated from their seeds by ginning but not subjected to any further processing after ginning. (See **lint cotton**.) **D 2495**
- hooks**, *n*—in *fiber testing*, curved or bent fiber ends caused by the carding or specimen preparation processes. **D 5332**
- horseshoe**, *n*—a length of sliver folded in a manner such that the two ends can be fed simultaneously into the needle field of the Fibroliner FL-101. **D 5332**
- IC/TC**, *n*—abbreviation for Intelligent Color/Trash Coordinator. **D 5867**
- IDT**, *n*—abbreviation for Intelligent Data Terminal. **D 5867**
- illumination**, *n*—in *lighting*, the density or flux of light on a unit area of surface. **D 1684**
- immature fibers**, *n*—(1) (cotton fibers treated with sodium hydroxide solution)—fibers that either (a) have swollen and assumed a spiral form, or (b) remained flat, thinly outlined, and almost transparent. Total wall width is less than the lumen width.  
(2) (cotton fibers observed under polarized light)—fibers that appear purple, indigo, or blue, turn orange or yellow-orange upon rotation to the subtractive position, and upon removal of the selenite plate show parallel extinction. (Compare **mature fibers**.) **D 1442**
- invisible waste**, *n*—in *cotton testing*, weight loss due to dust, moisture, loose fibers, etc., carried away by the air stream during the test. **D 2812**
- length analyzer**, *n*—an instrument which determines the upper-half-mean length and length uniformity index of a test beard of cotton. **D 5867**
- length group**, *n*—all fibers, or pulls, whose lengths fall within a given length interval. **D 1440**
- length interval**, *n*—a class interval of 1/8 in. (3 mm), usually designated by its midpoint length in odd-numbered sixteenths of an inch. **D 1440**
- lint**, *n*—in *loose cotton*, fibers mostly of spinnable length. (See also **linters**.) **D 2812**
- lint content**, *n*—that portion of a mass of cotton fiber consisting of fiber, including normal moisture content, but excluding foreign matter. **D 2812**
- lint cotton**, *n*—loose cotton fibers in any form, either raw or processed, free of seeds and not bound together in yarn or fabric. (See also **ginned lint**.) **D 2495**
- linters**, *n*—the short fibrous material adhering to the cotton seed after the spinnable lint has been removed by ginning and which is subsequently recovered from the seed by a process called “delinting.” **D 5867**
- lot**, *n*—in *acceptance sampling of cotton*, the main stock, supply, or source of fibers to be sampled. **D 1441**
- lot sample**, *n*—in *cotton*, a relatively large sample taken in the field to represent a consignment, shipment, or lot, for use in