



Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel Blend Stock (B100) for Middle Distillate Fuels¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6751; 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 (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers biodiesel (B100) Grades S15 and S500 for use as a blend component with diesel fuel oils defined by Specification D 975 Grades 1-D, 2-D, and low sulfur 1-D and 2-D.

1.2 Biodiesel may be blended with fuel oils whose sulfur, aromatic, cetane, or lubricity levels are outside Specification D 975 Grades 1-D, 2-D, and low sulfur 1-D and 2-D, provided the finished mixture meets pertinent national and local specifications and requirements for these properties.

1.3 This specification, unless otherwise provided by agreement between the purchaser and the supplier, prescribes the required properties of biodiesel fuel at the time and place of delivery.

1.4 Nothing in this specification shall preclude observance of federal, state, or local regulations which may be more restrictive.

NOTE 1—The generation and dissipation of static electricity can create problems in the handling of distillate fuel oils with which biodiesel may be blended. For more information on the subject, see Guide D 4865.

1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D 93 Test Methods for Flash Point by Pensky-Martens Closed Cup Tester
- D 130 Test Method for Corrosiveness to Copper from Petroleum Products by Copper Strip Test
- D 189 Test Method for Conradson Carbon Residue of Petroleum Products

- D 445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)
- D 524 Test Method for Ramsbottom Carbon Residue of Petroleum Products
- D 613 Test Method for Cetane Number of Diesel Fuel Oil
- D 664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration
- D 874 Test Method for Sulfated Ash from Lubricating Oils and Additives
- D 974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration
- D 975 Specification for Diesel Fuel Oils
- D 976 Test Method for Calculated Cetane Index of Distillate Fuels
- D 1160 Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products at Reduced Pressure
- D 1266 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products (Lamp Method)
- D 1796 Test Method for Water and Sediment in Fuel Oils by the Centrifuge Method (Laboratory Procedure)
- D 2274 Test Method for Oxidation Stability of Distillate Fuel Oil (Accelerated Method)
- D 2500 Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products
- D 2622 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products by Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D 2709 Test Method for Water and Sediment in Middle Distillate Fuels by Centrifuge
- D 2880 Specification for Gas Turbine Fuel Oils
- D 3117 Test Method for Wax Appearance Point of Distillate Fuels
- D 3120 Test Method for Trace Quantities of Sulfur in Light Liquid Petroleum Hydrocarbons by Oxidative Microcoulometry
- D 3242 Test Method for Acidity in Aviation Turbine Fuel
- D 3828 Test Methods for Flash Point by Small Scale Closed Cup Tester
- D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.E0 on Burner, Diesel, Non-Aviation Gas Turbine, and Marine Fuels.

Current edition approved Aug. 1, 2006. Published September 2006. Originally approved in 1999 as PS 121–99. Adopted as a standard in 2002 as D 6751–02. Last previous edition approved in 2006 as D 6751–06^{ε1}.

² 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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.

- D 4177** Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D 4294** Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum and Petroleum Products by Energy-Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D 4530** Test Method for Determination of Carbon Residue (Micro Method)
- D 4737** Test Method for Calculated Cetane Index by Four Variable Equation
- D 4865** Guide for Generation and Dissipation of Static Electricity in Petroleum Fuel Systems
- D 4951** Test Method for Determination of Additive Elements in Lubricating Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry
- D 5453** Test Method for Determination of Total Sulfur in Light Hydrocarbons, Spark Ignition Engine Fuel, Diesel Engine Fuel, and Engine Oil by Ultraviolet Fluorescence
- D 6217** Test Method for Particulate Contamination in Middle Distillate Fuels by Laboratory Filtration
- D 6450** Test Method for Flash Point by Continuously Closed Cup (CCCFP) Tester
- D 6469** Guide for Microbial Contamination in Fuels and Fuel Systems
- D 6584** Test Method for Determination of Free and Total Glycerin in B-100 Biodiesel Methyl Esters By Gas Chromatography
- 2.2 *Government Standard:*
40 CFR Part 79 Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives Section 211(b) Clean Air Act³
- 2.3 *Other Documents:*⁴
UOP 389 Trace Metals in Oils by Wet Ashing and ICP-OES
UOP 391–91 Trace Metals in Petroleum Products or Organics by AAS

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *biodiesel, n*—a fuel comprised of mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats, designated B100.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion—Biodiesel*, as defined above, is registered with the U.S. EPA as a fuel and a fuel additive under Section 211(b) of the Clean Air Act. There is, however, other usage of the term biodiesel in the marketplace. Due to its EPA registration and the widespread commercial use of the term biodiesel in the U.S. marketplace, the term biodiesel will be maintained for this specification.

3.1.1.2 *Discussion—Biodiesel* is typically produced by a reaction of a vegetable oil or animal fat with an alcohol such as methanol or ethanol in the presence of a catalyst to yield mono-alkyl esters and glycerin, which is removed. The finished biodiesel derives approximately 10 % of its mass from the reacted alcohol. The alcohol used in the reaction may or may not come from renewable resources.

³ Available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

⁴ Available from ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA. Visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org.

3.1.2 *biodiesel blend, BXX, n*—a blend of biodiesel fuel with petroleum-based diesel fuel.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—In the abbreviation BXX, the XX represents the volume percentage of biodiesel fuel in the blend.

3.1.3 *biodiesel fuel, n*—synonym for *biodiesel*.

3.1.4 *diesel fuel, n*—middle petroleum distillate fuel.

3.1.5 *free glycerin, n*—a measure of the amount of glycerin remaining in the fuel.

3.1.6 *Grade S15 B100, n*—a grade of biodiesel meeting ASTM Specification D 6751 and having a sulfur specification of 15 ppm maximum.

3.1.7 *Grade S500 B100, n*—a grade of biodiesel meeting ASTM Specification D 6751 and having a sulfur specification of 500 ppm maximum.

3.1.8 *middle distillate fuel, n*—kerosines and gas oils boiling between approximately 150°C and 400°C at normal atmospheric pressure and having a closed-cup flash point above 38°C.

3.1.9 *total glycerin, n*—the sum of the free glycerin and the glycerin portion of any unreacted or partially reacted oil or fat.

4. Requirements

4.1 The biodiesel specified shall be mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils and animal fats.

4.2 Unless otherwise specified, samples for analysis shall be taken by the procedure described in Practices **D 4057** or **D 4177**.

4.3 The biodiesel specified shall conform to the detailed requirements shown in **Table 1**.

NOTE 2—A considerable amount of experience exists in the U.S. with a 20 % blend of biodiesel, primarily produced from soybean oil, with 80 % diesel fuel (B20). Experience with biodiesel produced from animal fat and other oils is similar. Although biodiesel (B100) can be used, blends of over 20 % biodiesel with diesel fuel (B20) should be evaluated on a case by case basis until further experience is available.

NOTE 3—The user should consult the equipment manufacturer or owner's manual regarding the suitability of using biodiesel or biodiesel blends in a particular engine or application.

5. Test Methods

5.1 The requirements enumerated in this specification shall be determined in accordance with the following methods.

5.1.1 *Flash Point*—Test Methods **D 93**, except where other methods are prescribed by law. Test Methods **D 3828** or **D 6450** can also be used. The precision and bias of Test Methods **D 3828** and **D 6450** with biodiesel is not known and is currently under investigation. Test Methods **D 93** shall be the referee method.

5.1.2 *Water and Sediment*—Test Method **D 2709**. Test Method **D 1796** may also be used. Test Method **D 2709** shall be the referee method. The precision and bias of these test methods with biodiesel is not known and is currently under investigation.

5.1.3 *Viscosity*—Test Method **D 445**.

5.1.4 *Sulfated Ash*—Test Method **D 874**.

5.1.5 *Sulfur*—Test Method **D 5453**. Other test methods may also be suitable for determining up to 0.05 % sulfur in biodiesel fuels such as Test Methods **D 1266**, **D 2622**, **D 3120** and

TABLE 1 Detailed Requirements for Biodiesel (B100) (All Sulfur Levels)^A

Property	Test Method ^B	Grade S15 Limits	Grade S500 Limits	Units
Calcium and Magnesium, combined	UOP 389	5 max	5 max	ppm (µg/g)
Flash point (closed cup)	D 93	130.0 min	130.0 min	°C
Water and sediment	D 2709	0.050 max	0.050 max	% volume
Kinematic viscosity, 40°C	D 445	1.9–6.0 ^C	1.9–6.0 ^C	mm ² /s
Sulfated ash	D 874	0.020 max	0.020 max	% mass
Sulfur ^D	D 5453	0.0015 max (15)	0.05 max (500)	% mass (ppm)
Copper strip corrosion	D 130	No. 3 max	No. 3 max	
Cetane number	D 613	47 min	47 min	
Cloud point	D 2500	Report ^E	Report ^E	°C
Carbon residue ^F	D 4530	0.050 max	0.050 max	% mass
Acid number	D 664	0.50 max	0.50 max	mg KOH/g
Free glycerin	D 6584	0.020	0.020	% mass
Total glycerin	D 6584	0.240	0.240	% mass
Phosphorus content	D 4951	0.001 max	0.001 max	% mass
Distillation temperature, Atmospheric equivalent temperature, 90 % recovered	D 1160	360 max	360 max	°C
Sodium and Potassium, combined	UOP 391	5 max	5 max	ppm (µg/g)

^A To meet special operating conditions, modifications of individual limiting requirements may be agreed upon between purchaser, seller, and manufacturer.

^B The test methods indicated are the approved referee methods. Other acceptable methods are indicated in 5.1.

^C See X1.3.1. The 6.0 mm²/s upper viscosity limit is higher than petroleum based diesel fuel and should be taken into consideration when blending.

^D Other sulfur limits can apply in selected areas in the United States and in other countries.

^E The cloud point of biodiesel is generally higher than petroleum based diesel fuel and should be taken into consideration when blending.

^F Carbon residue shall be run on the 100 % sample (see 5.1.10).

D 4294 but may provide falsely high results (see X1.5) although their precision and bias with biodiesel is unknown. Test Method D 5453 shall be the referee test method.

5.1.6 *Corrosion*—Test Method D 130, 3 h test at 50°C.

5.1.7 *Cetane Number*—Test Method D 613.

5.1.8 *Cloud Point*—Test Method D 2500. Test Method D 3117 may also be used because the two are closely related. Test Method D 2500 shall be the referee test method. The precision and bias of these test methods for biodiesel is not known and is currently under investigation.

5.1.9 *Acid Number*—Test Method D 664. Test Methods D 3242 or D 974 may also be used. Test Method D 664 shall be the referee test method.

5.1.10 *Carbon Residue*—Test Method D 4530. A 100 % sample shall replace the 10 % residual, with percent residue in the original sample reported using the 10 % residual calculation

(see X1.9.1). Test Methods D 189 or D 524 may also be used. Test Method D 4530 shall be the referee method.

5.1.11 *Total Glycerin*—Test Method D 6584.

5.1.12 *Free Glycerin*—Test Method D 6584.

5.1.13 *Phosphorus Content*—Test Method D 4951.

5.1.14 *Distillation Temperature, Reduced Pressure*—Test Method D 1160.

6. Workmanship

6.1 The biodiesel fuel shall be visually free of undissolved water, sediment, and suspended matter.

7. Keywords

7.1 alternative fuel; biodiesel fuel; diesel fuel oil; fuel oil; renewable resource

APPENDIXES

(Nonmandatory Information)

X1. SIGNIFICANCE OF PROPERTIES SPECIFIED FOR BIODIESEL FUEL

X1.1 Introduction

X1.1.1 The properties of commercial biodiesel fuel depends upon the refining practices employed and the nature of the renewable lipids from which it is produced. Biodiesel, for example, can be produced from a variety of vegetable oils or

animal fats which produce similar volatility characteristics and combustion emissions with varying cold flow properties.