
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



731/V

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Formic acid for industrial use — Methods of test — Part V : Visual limit test for inorganic sulphates

*Acide formique à usage industriel — Méthodes d'essai —
Partie V : Essai visuel limite de contrôle des sulfates minéraux*

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UDC 661.732.1 : 620.1 : 543.8

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Descriptors : formic acid, tests, chemical analysis, determination of content, acidity, chlorides, sulphates.

FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

Prior to 1972, the results of the work of the technical committees were published as ISO Recommendations; these documents are in the process of being transformed into International Standards. As part of this process, Technical Committee ISO/TC 47, *Chemistry*, has reviewed ISO Recommendation R 731-1968 and found it technically suitable for transformation. ISO/R 731 has, however, been subdivided into seven parts. International Standard ISO 731/V replaces clause 6 of ISO Recommendation R 731-1968, to which it is technically identical.

ISO Recommendation R 731 had been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Austria	India	Romania
Belgium	Iran	South Africa, Rep. of
Bulgaria	Israel	Spain
Chile	Italy	Switzerland
Czechoslovakia	Japan	Turkey
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	United Kingdom
France	Netherlands	U.S.S.R.
Germany	New Zealand	Yugoslavia
Greece	Poland	
Hungary	Portugal	

The member body of the following country had expressed disapproval of the Recommendation on technical grounds :

U.S.A.

The member body of the following country disapproved the transformation of the recommendation into an International Standard :

Netherlands

Formic acid for industrial use – Methods of test – Part V : Visual limit test for inorganic sulphates

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This part of ISO 731 specifies a visual limit test for inorganic sulphates present in formic acid for industrial use.

The method is applicable to products having inorganic sulphates contents, expressed as sulphate (SO_4^{2-}), in the range 0,001 to 0,1 % (*m/m*). If the inorganic sulphates content lies outside this range, the range of applicability may be extended by increasing or reducing the mass of the test portion.

This document should be read in conjunction with part I (see the annex).

2 PRINCIPLE

Comparison of the turbidity, obtained by the addition of barium chloride to a solution prepared from a test portion in the presence of hydrochloric acid with that similarly obtained from a standard sulphate solution.

3 REAGENTS

During the analysis, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only distilled water or water of equivalent purity.

3.1 Sodium carbonate, approximately 1 N solution.

3.2 Hydrochloric acid, approximately 1 N solution.

3.3 Barium chloride, dihydrate ($\text{BaCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$), 10 g/l solution.

3.4 Sulphate, standard solution corresponding to 0,1 g of SO_4^{2-} per litre.

Place 20,8 ml of 0,1 N standard volumetric sulphuric acid solution in a 1 000 ml one-mark volumetric flask. Dilute to the mark and mix.

1 ml of this standard solution contains 0,000 1 g of SO_4^{2-} .

4 APPARATUS

Ordinary laboratory apparatus and

4.1 Two matched Nessler cylinders, of capacity 100 ml.

5 PROCEDURE

5.1 Test portion

Weigh, to the nearest 1 g, 100 g of the laboratory sample into an evaporating basin.

5.2 Preparation of test solution

Add 0,2 ml of the sodium carbonate solution (3.1) to the test portion (5.1) and evaporate to dryness on a boiling water bath. Dissolve the residue in water containing 1 ml of the hydrochloric acid solution (3.2), transfer the solution quantitatively to a 250 ml one-mark volumetric flask, dilute to the mark and mix.

If the solution is not clear, pass it through a filter paper. This should remove turbidity due to impurities such as aluminium. If there is turbidity in the filtrate due to contamination with wax, remove it by shaking with a suitable solvent, for example light petroleum.

5.3 Comparison

Place 4,0 ml of the standard sulphate solution (3.4) in one of the Nessler cylinders (4.1), dilute to the mark, add 2 ml of the hydrochloric acid solution (3.2) and mix.

For a sample required to contain not more than x % (*m/m*) of inorganic sulphates, expressed as SO_4^{2-} , transfer an aliquot portion numerically equal to $\left(\frac{0,1}{x}\right)^*$ millilitres of the test solution (5.2) to the other cylinder, dilute to the mark, add 2 ml of the hydrochloric acid solution and mix.

* If the mass of the test portion (5.1) was reduced or increased (see clause 1), adjust the numerator of this fraction accordingly.

Add 2 ml of the barium chloride solution (3.3) to each Nessler cylinder and mix. Allow the cylinders to stand for 5 min, mix again and compare the turbidity produced by the aliquot portion of the test solution with that produced by the standard sulphate solution.

6 EXPRESSION OF RESULTS

If the turbidity produced from the test solution is less than that produced from the standard sulphate solution, report that the sample contains less than x % (m/m) of inorganic sulphates expressed as SO_4^{2-} . Otherwise, report it as containing not less than x % (m/m).

ANNEX

ISO PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO FORMIC ACID FOR INDUSTRIAL USE

ISO 731/I – General.

ISO 731/II – Determination of total acidity – Titrimetric method.

ISO 731/III – Determination of content of other acids – Potentiometric method.

ISO 731/IV – Visual limit test for inorganic chlorides.

ISO 731/V – Visual limit test for inorganic sulphates.

ISO 731/VI – Determination of iron content – 2,2'-Bipyridyl photometric method.

ISO 731/VII – Determination of low contents of other volatile acids – Titrimetric method after distillation.

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