
Leather — Grading of wet blue goat and sheep skins based on defects

*Cuir — Classement des peaux de chèvre et de mouton en bleu humide
sur la base des défauts*

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	iv
1 Scope.....	1
2 Normative references.....	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
3.1 General terms.....	1
3.2 Terms related to defects in wet blue skins.....	1
4 Presentations.....	1
4.1 Presentation of wet blue goat and sheep skin.....	1
5 Grading of wet blue goat skins.....	2
5.1 General.....	2
5.2 Grade I.....	3
5.3 Grade II.....	3
5.4 Grade III.....	3
5.5 Grade IV.....	3
5.6 Grade V.....	3
6 Grading of wet blue sheep skins.....	4
6.1 General.....	4
6.2 Grade A.....	4
6.3 Grade B.....	4
6.4 Grade C.....	4
6.5 Grade D.....	4
6.6 Grade E.....	4
7 Remarks.....	5
	https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/29bc53a7-443e-4fc7-9d15-ece977d24f43/iso-11457-2018

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 120, *Leather*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Tanned leather*.

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Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Leather — Grading of wet blue goat and sheep skins based on defects

1 Scope

This document provides guidance for grading wet blue goat and sheep skins on the basis of their defects.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 General terms

3.1.1

wet blue

wet chrome tanned hide or skin which is an intermediate material of leather manufacturing

3.2 Terms related to defects in wet blue skins

3.2.1

scabies

marks which usually look like rashes or sores, but in some cases can also look like pencil marks

3.2.2

pocca

warble mark

mark similar to a depression on the flesh side or a hole on the skin, caused by warble flies

4 Presentations

4.1 Presentation of wet blue goat and sheep skin

The wet blue skins of both goats and sheep should be well trimmed, with neck, fore and hind legs and tail all properly trimmed as per [Figure 1](#) and [Figure 2](#).

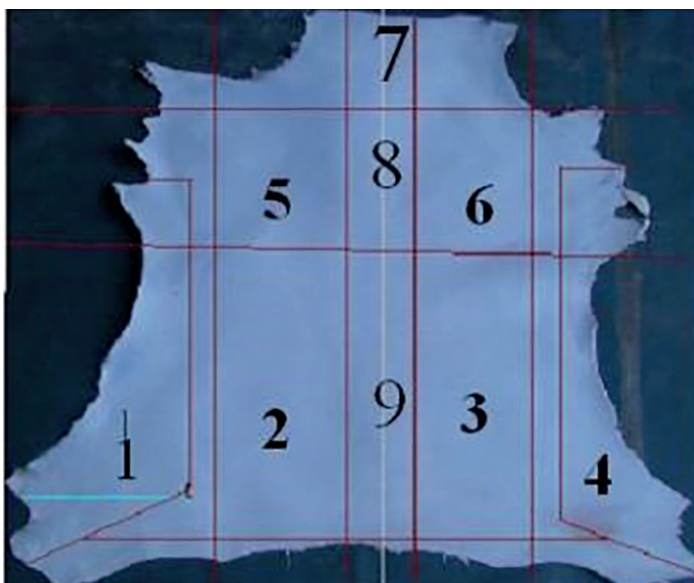


Figure 1 — Goat skin



Figure 2 — Sheep skin

5 Grading of wet blue goat skins

5.1 General

For the purpose of grading, the schematic representation of [Figure 1](#) should be used and scrutinized for the following:

- a) cutting value;
- b) defect;

- c) grain texture.

5.2 Grade I

- a) Clear portion in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9.
- b) Defects not exceeding 10 % of the total area.
- c) Fine and smooth grain, no drawness, compact texture.
- d) Thin and empty skin not accepted in this grade.

5.3 Grade II

- a) Clear portion in 2, 3, 5, 6 and 9; area 7 and 8 can have minor healed defects.
- b) Defects not exceeding 10 % to 20 % of the total area.
- c) Fine grain, slight drawn grain on neck only, no loose texture.
- d) Thin and empty skins are not accepted in this grade.

5.4 Grade III

- a) Clear portion in 2, 3, 5 and 6.
- b) Defects not exceeding 20 % to 40 % of the total area.
- c) Smooth grain, drawness on neck only, no loose texture.
- d) A few pocca on the neck or areas 5 and 8, but not on the prime portion. One or two healed defects, vein marks on areas 4, 6 and 7, and the belly portion.

5.5 Grade IV

- a) Clear portion in 2 and 3.
- b) Defects not exceeding 70 % of the total area.
- c) Light drawn grain.
- d) Scattered pocca, pin holes, vein marks and open defects on 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9.

5.6 Grade V

- a) Thin empty skins.
- b) Heavy drawn grain.
- c) Open defects.
- d) Defects not exceeding 85 % of total area.

6 Grading of wet blue sheep skins

6.1 General

For the purpose of grading, the schematic representation of [Figure 2](#) should be used and scrutinized for the following:

- a) cutting value;
- b) defect;
- c) grain texture.

6.2 Grade A

- a) Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 should be defect free.
- b) Defects not exceeding 10 % of the total area.
- c) Fine grain.
- d) No rib marks, no blood vessel marks and no drawn grain.
- e) No flay cuts, no rib marks, no scissor marks.

6.3 Grade B

- a) Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be defect-free.
- b) Defects not exceeding 10 % to 20 % of the total area.
- c) Light scattered defects in area 8, light drawn grain on the neck, light flay cuts in the belly portion.
- d) No pin holes or open cuts on the prime portion.

6.4 Grade C

- a) Areas 1, 3, 4 and 6 should be defect-free.
- b) Defects not exceeding 20 % to 40 % of the total area.
- c) Coarse grain, scattered defect all over skin in areas 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9; light scissor marks, scabies and pin holes on backbone; removable drawn grain to some extent, blood vessel marks, flay cuts in the flank portion.
- d) Light rib marks.

6.5 Grade D

- a) Areas 1, 3, 4 and 6 should be defect-free.
- b) Defects not exceeding 60 % of the total area.
- c) Some open defects in portions of skin in areas 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

6.6 Grade E

- a) Defects not exceeding 80 % of the total area.
- b) Open defects all over skin except 20 % of the cuttable area.

7 Remarks

7.1 Criteria such as skin area and substance should be dependent on the buyer and seller contract.

7.2 This may be specific to the end product being manufactured from the finished leather, for example shoes, garments, leather goods or gloves.

7.3 Leathers have been graded on grain-side defects only.

7.4 Grading and percentages of damage-free cutting values in each grade have been decided on the basis of internationally accepted commercial pricing on each grade.

7.5 Manufacturers of suedes and heel grip can generally use grades II, III, IV and V where the flesh side can be clean and free of defects.

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