



Designation: D5768 – 02 (Reapproved2010)

Standard Test Method for Determination of Iodine Value of Tall Oil Fatty Acids¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the Wijs procedure for determination of unsaturation (iodine value) of tall oil fatty acids.

1.2 Iodine value is a measure of the unsaturation of oils and fatty acids and is expressed in terms of the number of centigrams of iodine per gram of sample (weight percent of absorbed iodine).

1.3 When this test method is used to determine the iodine value of fatty acids having conjugated systems, the result is not a measure of total unsaturated, but rather is an empirical value that affords a comparison of unsaturation. Total unsaturation of conjugated systems may be measured in accordance with Test Method [D1541](#).

1.4 The test method described here is not reliable for tall oil fatty acids containing an appreciable quantity of rosin.

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

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D1193 Specification for Reagent Water](#)

[D1541 Test Method for Total Iodine Value of Drying Oils and Their Derivatives](#) (Withdrawn 2006)³

[D1959 Test Method for Iodine Value of Drying Oils and Fatty Acids](#) (Withdrawn 2006)³

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D01](#) on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D01.34](#) on Pine Chemicals and Hydrocarbon Resins.

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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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

[E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods](#)

[E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

3. Significance and Use

3.1 The iodine value of a fatty acid product is a measure of the unsaturated fatty acid content of that product and consequently a measure of the ease of oxidation or drying capacity of that fatty acid product.

3.2 This test method measures the unsaturation as iodine value by addition of an iodine/chlorine reagent. The amount of reagent absorbed is determined by back titrating the excess reagent and comparing it to a blank determination.

3.3 In samples containing conjugated double bonds, the iodine value obtained is empirical since the reagent does not react stoichiometrically with conjugated unsaturation. Where no conjugation is present, the iodine value obtained is a measure of the total unsaturation. By using proper specimen weights, the empirical values obtained are useful for comparative purposes.

3.4 This test method was developed in order to replace the hazardous solvent, carbon tetrachloride, used in Test Method [D1959](#) with the less hazardous and more available solvents, iso-octane and cyclohexane. As data on the satisfactory use of other solvents becomes available, this test method will be amended to include those solvents.

3.5 This test method should have applicability to fatty acids and oils other than tall oil fatty acid but that possibility has not been investigated.

4. Apparatus

4.1 *Bottles*—Glass-stoppered bottles or Erlenmeyer flasks of 250-mL capacity.

4.2 *Pipets*—20 and 25-mL capacity.

4.3 Analytical balance

5. Reagents

5.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests unless otherwise specified. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the Specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the