



Designation: D6751 – 11a

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

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1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers biodiesel (B100) Grades S15 and S500 for use as a blend component with middle distillate fuels.

1.2 This specification prescribes the required properties of diesel fuels at the time and place of delivery. The specification requirements may be applied at other points in the production and distribution system when provided by agreement between the purchaser and the supplier.

1.3 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 D4865.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D93 Test Methods for Flash Point by Pensky-Martens Closed Cup Tester
- D130 Test Method for Corrosiveness to Copper from Petroleum Products by Copper Strip Test
- D189 Test Method for Conradson Carbon Residue of Petroleum Products
- D445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)
- D524 Test Method for Ramsbottom Carbon Residue of Petroleum Products
- D613 Test Method for Cetane Number of Diesel Fuel Oil

- D664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration
- D874 Test Method for Sulfated Ash from Lubricating Oils and Additives
- D974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration
- D975 Specification for Diesel Fuel Oils
- D976 Test Method for Calculated Cetane Index of Distillate Fuels
- D1160 Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products at Reduced Pressure
- D1266 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products (Lamp Method)
- D1796 Test Method for Water and Sediment in Fuel Oils by the Centrifuge Method (Laboratory Procedure)
- D2274 Test Method for Oxidation Stability of Distillate Fuel Oil (Accelerated Method)
- D2500 Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products
- D2622 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products by Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D2709 Test Method for Water and Sediment in Middle Distillate Fuels by Centrifuge
- D2880 Specification for Gas Turbine Fuel Oils
- D3117 Test Method for Wax Appearance Point of Distillate Fuels³
- D3120 Test Method for Trace Quantities of Sulfur in Light Liquid Petroleum Hydrocarbons by Oxidative Microcoulometry
- D3242 Test Method for Acidity in Aviation Turbine Fuel
- D3828 Test Methods for Flash Point by Small Scale Closed Cup Tester
- D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D4294 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum and Petroleum Products by Energy Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D4530 Test Method for Determination of Carbon Residue (Micro Method)

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.

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

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

- D4737** Test Method for Calculated Cetane Index by Four Variable Equation
- D4865** Guide for Generation and Dissipation of Static Electricity in Petroleum Fuel Systems
- D4951** Test Method for Determination of Additive Elements in Lubricating Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry
- D5453** Test Method for Determination of Total Sulfur in Light Hydrocarbons, Spark Ignition Engine Fuel, Diesel Engine Fuel, and Engine Oil by Ultraviolet Fluorescence
- D5771** Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products (Optical Detection Stepped Cooling Method)
- D5772** Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products (Linear Cooling Rate Method)
- D5773** Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products (Constant Cooling Rate Method)
- D6217** Test Method for Particulate Contamination in Middle Distillate Fuels by Laboratory Filtration
- D6450** Test Method for Flash Point by Continuously Closed Cup (CCCFP) Tester
- D6469** Guide for Microbial Contamination in Fuels and Fuel Systems
- D6584** Test Method for Determination of Total Monoglycerides, Total Diglycerides, Total Triglycerides, and Free and Total Glycerin in B-100 Biodiesel Methyl Esters by Gas Chromatography
- D6890** Test Method for Determination of Ignition Delay and Derived Cetane Number (DCN) of Diesel Fuel Oils by Combustion in a Constant Volume Chamber
- D7039** Test Method for Sulfur in Gasoline and Diesel Fuel by Monochromatic Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D7397** Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products (Miniaturized Optical Method)
- D7501** Test Method for Determination of Fuel Filter Blocking Potential of Biodiesel (B100) Blend Stock by Cold Soak Filtration Test (CSFT)
- 2.2 Government Standard:**
- 40 CFR Part 79** Registration of Fuels and Fuel Additives Section 211(b) Clean Air Act⁴
- 2.3 Other Documents:**
- AOCS Standard Procedure Ck 2-09** Determination of Various Properties of Biodiesel by the QTA System Method^{5,6}
- UOP 389** Trace Metals in Oils by Wet Ashing and ICP-OES⁷
- UOP 391-91** Trace Metals in Petroleum Products or Organics by AAS⁷

- EN 14110** Fat and oil derivatives—Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME)—Determination of methanol content⁸
- EN 14112** Fat and oil derivatives—Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME)—Determination of oxidation stability (Accelerated oxidation test)⁸
- EN 14538** Fat and oil derivatives—Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME)—Determination of Ca, K, Mg and Na content by optical emission spectral analysis with inductively coupled plasma (ICP OES)⁸
- EN 15751** Automotive fuels - Fatty acid methyl ester (FAME) fuel and blends with diesel fuel - Determination of oxidation stability by accelerated oxidation method⁸

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *biodiesel, n*—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 (**40 CFR Part 79**). 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.

3.1.2 *biodiesel blend (BXX), n*—blend of biodiesel fuel with diesel fuel oils.

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 D6751 and having a sulfur specification of 15 ppm maximum.

3.1.7 *Grade S500 B100, n*—a grade of biodiesel meeting ASTM Specification D6751 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.

⁸ Available from the National CEN Members listed on the CEN website (www.cenorm.be) or from the CEN/TC19 secretariat (astm@nen.nl).

⁴ Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401.

⁵ Available from AOCS Headquarters, 2710 S. Boulder, Urbana, IL 61802-6996. Download Product Code: MC-CK209 from www.aocs.org.

⁶ QTA is a registered trademark of the Cognis Corporation, 5051 Estecreek Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45232-1446.

⁷ 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.

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 **D4057** or **D4177**.

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. Experience with B20 and lower blends in other applications is not as prevalent. 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 **D93**, except where other methods are prescribed by law. Test Methods **D3828** or **D6450** can also be used. The precision and bias of Test Methods **D3828** and **D6450** with biodiesel is not known and is currently under investigation. Test Methods **D93** shall be the referee method.

5.1.2 *Water and Sediment*—Test Method **D2709**. Test Method **D1796** may also be used. Test Method **D2709** 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 **D445**.

5.1.4 *Sulfated Ash*—Test Method **D874**.

5.1.5 *Oxidation Stability*—Test Method **EN 15751**. Test Method **EN 14112** may also be used. See **X1.18.1** for further information. Test Method **EN 15751** shall be the referee test method.

5.1.6 *Sulfur*—Test Method **D5453**. Test Method **D7039** may also be used. Other test methods may also be suitable for determining up to 0.05 % (500 ppm) sulfur in biodiesel fuels such as Test Methods **D1266**, **D2622**, **D3120** and **D4294** but may provide falsely high results (see **X1.5**) although their precision and bias with biodiesel is unknown. Test Method **D5453** shall be the referee test method.

5.1.7 *Corrosion*—Test Method **D130**, 3 h test at 50°C.

5.1.8 *Cetane Number*—Test Method **D613**. Test Method **D6890** may also be used. Test Method **D613** shall be the referee method.

5.1.9 *Cloud Point*—Test Method **D2500**. Test Method **D5771**, **D5772**, **D5773**, or **D7397** may also be used. Test Method **D3117** may also be used because it is closely related. Test Method **D2500** shall be the referee test method. The precision and bias of Test Method **D3117** for biodiesel is not known and is currently under investigation.

5.1.10 *Acid Number*—Test Method **D664**. Test Methods **D3242** or **D974** may also be used. Test Method **D664** shall be the referee test method.

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

Property	Test Method ^A	Grade S15 Limits	Grade S500 Limits	Units
Calcium and Magnesium, combined	EN 14538	5 max	5 max	ppm (µg/g)
Flash point (closed cup)	D93	93 min	93 min	°C
Alcohol control				
One of the following shall be met:				
1. Methanol content	EN 14110	0.2 max	0.2 max	mass %
2. Flash point	D93	130 min	130 min	°C
Water and sediment	D2709	0.050 max	0.050 max	% volume
Kinematic viscosity, 40°C	D445	1.9–6.0 ^B	1.9–6.0 ^B	mm ² /s
Sulfated ash	D874	0.020 max	0.020 max	% mass
Sulfur ^C	D5453	0.0015 max (15)	0.05 max (500)	% mass (ppm)
Copper strip corrosion	D130	No. 3 max	No. 3 max	
Cetane number	D613	47 min	47 min	
Cloud point	D2500	Report ^D	Report ^D	°C
Carbon residue ^E	D4530	0.050 max	0.050 max	% mass
Acid number	D664	0.50 max	0.50 max	mg KOH/g
Cold soak filterability	D7501	360 max ^F	360 max ^F	seconds
Free glycerin	D6584	0.020 max	0.020 max	% mass
Total glycerin	D6584	0.240 max	0.240 max	% mass
Phosphorus content	D4951	0.001 max	0.001 max	% mass
Distillation temperature, Atmospheric equivalent temperature, 90 % recovered	D1160	360 max	360 max	°C
Sodium and Potassium, combined	EN 14538	5 max	5 max	ppm (µg/g)
Oxidation stability	EN 15751	3 minimum	3 minimum	hours

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

^B 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.

^C Other sulfur limits may apply in selected areas in the United States and in other countries.

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

^E Carbon residue shall be run on the 100 % sample (see **5.1.11**).

^F B100 intended for blending into diesel fuel that is expected to give satisfactory vehicle performance at fuel temperatures at or below –12°C shall comply with a cold soak filterability limit of 200 s maximum.

5.1.11 *Carbon Residue*—Test Method **D4530**. A100 % 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 **D189** or **D524** may also be used. Test Method **D4530** shall be the referee method.

5.1.12 *Total Glycerin*—Test Method **D6584**.

5.1.13 *Free Glycerin*—Test Method **D6584**.

5.1.14 *Phosphorus Content*—Test Method **D4951**.

5.1.15 *Distillation Temperature, Reduced Pressure*—Test Method **D1160**.

5.1.16 *Calcium and Magnesium, combined*—Test Method **EN 14538**. Test Method **UOP 389** may also be used. Test Method **EN 14538** shall be the referee test method.

5.1.17 *Sodium and Potassium, combined*—Test Method **EN 14538**. Test Method **UOP 391** may also be used. Test Method **EN 14538** shall be the referee test method.

5.1.18 *Cold Soak Filterability*—Test Method **D7501**. B100 intended for blending into diesel fuels that is expected to give satisfactory vehicle performance at fuel temperatures at or below -12°C shall comply with a cold soak filtration limit of 200 s maximum.

5.1.19 *Methanol Content*—Test Method **EN 14110**. **AOCS Standard Procedure Ck 2-09** may also be used. Test Method **EN 14110** shall be the referee test method.

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.

X1.1.2 The significance of the properties in this appendix are based primarily on the commercial use of biodiesel in on-road and off-road diesel engine applications. Some of the properties may take on other significance if biodiesel is used as a fuel or blending component in other applications. See the respective finished product specifications for additional information on significance of properties of those applications.

X1.2 Flash Point

X1.2.1 The flash point, as specified, is not directly related to engine performance. It is, however, of importance in connection with legal requirements and safety precautions involved in fuel handling and storage that are normally specified to meet insurance and fire regulations.

X1.2.2 The flash point for biodiesel has been set at 93°C (200°F) minimum, so biodiesel falls under the non-hazardous category under National Fire Protection Association codes.

X1.3 Viscosity

X1.3.1 For some engines it may be advantageous to specify a minimum viscosity because of power loss due to injection pump and injector leakage. Maximum allowable viscosity, on the other hand, is limited by considerations involved in engine design and size, and the characteristics of the injection system. The upper limit for the viscosity of biodiesel ($6.0\text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ at 40°C) is higher than the maximum allowable viscosity in Specification **D975** Grade 2-D and 2-D low sulfur ($4.1\text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ at

40°C). Blending biodiesel with diesel fuel close to its upper limit could result in a biodiesel blend with viscosity above the upper limits contained in Specification **D975**.

X1.4 Sulfated Ash

X1.4.1 Ash-forming materials may be present in biodiesel in three forms: (1) abrasive solids, (2) soluble metallic soaps, and (3) unremoved catalysts. Abrasive solids and unremoved catalysts can contribute to injector, fuel pump, piston and ring wear, and also to engine deposits. Soluble metallic soaps have little effect on wear but may contribute to filter plugging and engine deposits.

X1.5 Sulfur

X1.5.1 The effect of sulfur content on engine wear and deposits appears to vary considerably in importance and depends largely on operating conditions. Fuel sulfur can also affect emissions control systems performance and various limits on sulfur have been imposed for environmental reasons. B100 is essentially sulfur-free.

NOTE X1.1—Test Method **D5453** should be used with biodiesel. Use of other test methods may provide falsely high results when analyzing B100 with extremely low sulfur levels (less than 5 ppm). Biodiesel sulfur analysis from **RR:D02-1480⁹**, *Biodiesel Fuel Cetane Number Testing Program, January-April, 1999*, using Test Method **D2622** yielded falsely high results due to the presence of the oxygen in the biodiesel. Sulfur results using Test Method **D2622** were more accurate with B20 than with B100 due to the lower oxygen content of B20. Potential improvements to Test Method **D2622** may provide more accurate values in the future.

X1.6 Copper Strip Corrosion

X1.6.1 This test serves as a measure of possible difficulties with copper and brass or bronze parts of the fuel system. The

⁹ Supporting data have been filed at ASTM International Headquarters and may be obtained by requesting Research Report **RR:D02-1480**.