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**Traditional Chinese medicine — Test method for moxa floss quality
— ~~concentration~~ Concentration of waste particles**

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional Chinese medicine*. ~~dts-6818~~

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.

Introduction

Moxa floss is a main combustion material of the moxibustion devices. The manufacturing process of moxa floss involves the repeated pounding of dried mugwort in a mortar and sifting grinded mugwort in a fine sieve. ~~The traditional medical classics recommend selection of product~~ Based on the products traditionally selected from the manufacturing process ~~has revealed that~~, the green part (waste particle) should be sifted out and the white or light-yellow part should be used.

Traditionally, the quality assessment of the moxa floss has depended on the human sensory evaluation, however, the global market requires the quantitative measurement of the quality of moxa floss for fair trade.

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Traditional Chinese medicine — Test method for moxa floss quality - ~~concentration~~— Concentration of waste particles

1 Scope

This document specifies test methods for the quality assessment of moxa floss. It covers sample preparation, measurement and calculation of the concentration of waste particle-~~concentration~~, and delivery of moxa floss quality ~~informations~~information.

This document is applicable to any moxa floss products-~~itself~~ and moxa floss used in the moxibustion devices. It is not applicable to the moxa floss which is hardened with ~~the~~ chemical ingredients or high pressure, or both and carbonized moxa floss which is used for smokeless moxibustion devices.

This document specifies the quality assessment of moxa floss quality, ~~and~~; categorizing or grade issue of moxa floss is not specified in this document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3310-1:~~2016~~, *Test sieves — Technical requirements and testing — Part 1: Test sieves of metal wire cloth*

ISO 9284:~~2013~~, *Abrasive grains — Test-sieving machines*

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

- ~~—~~ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- ~~—~~IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

moxa floss

cotton-like material for moxibustion made from mugwort leaves

[SOURCE: ISO 18666:~~2015~~2021, 3.5]

3.2

waste ~~partieles~~particle

~~impurities~~impurity, other than the ~~fibers~~fibres in the *moxa floss* (3.1), that ~~are~~is generated following the moxa floss manufacturing process of grinding and mostly removed in the manufacturing process of sieving

~~NOTE-Note~~ 1 to entry: The waste particles include broken branch of mugwort and green crystal formed materials which are generated during the manufacturing process of the moxa floss.

~~NOTE-Note~~ 2 to entry: Traditionally and commonly, lower waste particles are considered as higher quality. Thus, reduction of waste particle is required during the manufacturing process of the moxa floss.

~~NOTE~~ ~~Note~~ 3 to entry: — ~~High A high concentration of waste particle (3.4) decrease) decreases~~ the structural strength of moxa floss.

3.3 **moxibustion device**

apparatus that uses *moxa floss* (3.1) as the main combustion material and is intended for single or repeated usage

[SOURCE: ISO 18666:2015, 3.1]2021, 3.1, modified — EXAMPLE and note 1 to entry have been removed.]

3.4 **concentration of waste particle**

quality parameter of *moxa floss* (3.1) which shows how much the moxa floss contains *waste particle* (3.2), and indicated by both of *waste particle rate* (3.8) and *unseparation rate* (3.9)

3.5 **test sieve**

sieve, satisfying the requirements of ISO 3310-1 (metal wire cloth) or ISO 3310-2 (perforated metal plate), used for screening tests of powdery or granular matter

[SOURCE: ISO 11323:2010, 6.11]

3.6 **test sieving**

sieving with one or more *test sieves* (3.5)

[SOURCE: ISO 8157:2015, 2022, 3.3.5.1]

3.7 **sieving machine**

machine designed to simulate the hand shaking (3.96) procedure specified in the method for carrying out a size analysis (3.205)

[SOURCE: ISO 1213-2:2016, 3.203], modified — The term has been changed from "sieving test machine" to "sieving machine".]

3.8 **waste particle rate**

ratio of residues remaining in the sieves below 300 µm

3.9 **unseparation rate**

ratio of residues remaining in the 850 µm sieves

~~NOTE~~ ~~Note~~ 1 to entry: The term of 'unseparated' means that the moxa floss (3.1) is remaining in the 850 µm sieves because it may has not separated yet not only due to the size of the fibers/fibres while it may contain waste particles.

3.10 **quality of ~~maxa~~moxa floss**

complex assessment of a variety of parameters for *moxa floss* (3.1)

~~NOTE~~ ~~Note~~ 1 to entry: Ratio of ~~fibers/fibres~~ and *waste particles* (3.2), chemical characteristics, yield, colour and etc. can be the parameters for assess the quality of moxa floss.

3.11**grade of moxa floss**

ordinal class or scale indicating the *quality of moxa floss* (3.10)

NOTE1-Note 1 to entry: For example, commonly, the grade of moxa floss is divided into two classes: for direct moxibustion and for indirect moxibustion.

NOTE2-Note 2 to entry: ~~Compared to the~~ The quality of moxa floss, ~~the quality~~ means measurement value from the test, while the grade means classification in accordance with the quality value and national regulation.

4 Sampling**4.1 General**

The sampling shall be performed in a random manner ~~and free of unpredicted.~~ Unpredicted deformation shall not appear in the sampling procedure.

The sampling amount shall be 3,0 g ~~and the variation under, with a tolerance of $\pm 10\%$ is allowed.~~ %.

The specimen shall be prepared more than 3 units ~~and each.~~ Each specimen shall be prepared from a different primary package.

4.2 Sampling methods**4.2.1 Moxa floss products**

Sampling of the specimen shall be performed from mass of moxa floss ~~and only.~~ Only one specimen shall be collected from one primary package.

The mass of moxa floss shall be mixed well before sampling of the specimen because the waste particles ~~may can~~ be sedimented and the concentration ~~may can be~~ different between the top and the bottom in the package.

4.2.2 Moxa floss in the ~~Moxibustion~~ moxibustion devices

A specimen from the moxa floss contained in the moxibustion device product shall be collected from the final product of the moxibustion device.

Each specimen may contain moxa floss from various units collected randomly from one primary package.

Sampling of the specimen shall be performed under concentration and understanding of structure of the devices ~~and the.~~ The specimen shall not be deformed or contaminated under the sampling process.

4.3 Sample storage

The specimens shall be stored in the desiccator for more than 48 ~~hours~~ h to remove the humidity. Sulfuric acid or other reactive materials shall not be used as desiccants. Desiccator using silica gel or electrical device is allowed. The humidity in the desiccator shall be under $11\% \pm 1\%$ and the temperature shall be $25^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$.

~~While~~ During the storage periods, the specimen shall not be exposed to the direct light or air flow.

5 Measurement of concentration of waste particle~~concentration~~

5.1 General

The concentration of waste particle, which is generated in the grinding process, is the traditional indication of the moxa floss quality and can be measured by separating waste particles from moxa floss throughout the test method using the standard sieves.

The test shall be performed in the air-conditioned room with closed air circulation, ~~and any.~~ Any artificial airflow shall not be allowed ~~while~~during the test.

5.2 Test instruments

5.2.1 General

The test instruments shall ~~be consisted~~consist of the sieve part and the sieving machine ~~parts.~~part.

~~5.2.15.2.2~~ 5.2.2.2 Test sieves

The standard test sieves specified in ISO 3310-1:~~2016~~ shall apply.

The size of the test sieves shall be 850 µm, 600 µm, 425 µm, 300 µm, 200 µm, 150 µm, 100 µm, and 75 µm.

The diameter of the test sieves shall be 200 mm at minimum and 450 mm at maximum.

~~5.2.25.2.3~~ 5.2.2.3 Sieving machine

For the test sieving, the sieving machine specified in ISO 9284:~~2013~~ shall apply.

~~5.2.35.2.4~~ 5.2.3.2.4 Test instruments organization

The test sieves shall be stacked on the sieving machine in the order of sieve ~~size of sizes from~~ 850 µm to 75 µm, from the top to the bottom. The top sieve (850 µm) ~~shall~~shall be covered with the lid ~~and; a~~ base plate shall be ~~equipped~~placed under the 75 µm size sieve (between the 75 µm size sieve and the sieving machine).

The sieves shall be fixed tightly with the sieving machine. For the fixation of the sieves, ~~belt~~belts and ~~buckle~~buckles or metal rods and screws may be used. See Annex A~~Annex A~~ for ~~additional information on the~~ example~~examples~~ of test ~~instrument~~instruments.

5.3 Test procedure

5.3.1 General

The prepared specimen shall be tested in accordance with the following procedure of sieving weighing and calculation.

The test shall be performed at least four times for each product.

See Annex B~~Annex B~~ for additional information on the test result of the concentration of waste particle ~~concentration~~ in moxa floss quality (Table B.1~~(Table B.1)~~).

~~5.3.15.3.2~~ 5.3.3.2 Sieving

The prepared specimen shall be located in the top sieve (850 µm) and shall be sieved for 10 ~~hours.~~ h.

The cover lid on the top sieve shall not be open until the end of the test to prevent loss of the specimen.