International Standard

ISO 16994

Solid biofuels and pyrogenic biocarbon — Determination of sulfur and chlorine content

Biocombustibles solides et biocarbone pyrogène — Détermination de la teneur en soufre et en chlore

Third edition
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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 238, *Solid biofuels and pyrogenic biocarbon,* in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 335, *Solid Biofuels and Pyrogenic Biocarbon,* in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 16994:2016), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— fluorine and bromine added to the scope and calculation in 9.2;

— normative references updated;

— detection methods updated and additional details about the techniques added;

— decomposition method with acid digestion and ICP analyses for chlorine removed.

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

Sulfur and chlorine are present in solid biofuels and pyrogenic biocarbon in varying concentrations. During the combustion process, they are usually converted to sulfur-oxides and chlorides. The presence of these elements and their reaction products can contribute significantly to corrosion and to environmentally harmful emissions.

Chlorine can be present in different organic and inorganic compounds and can exceed or equal the water-soluble amount that can be determined by ISO 16995.

Fluorine and bromine can also be present in solid biofuels and pyrogenic biocarbon, but in detectable concentration only in specific types of biomass, like in aquatic biofuels (Br) or as contamination because of chemical treatment (F). Both elements can be analysed using the same techniques and equipment as for chlorine and sulfur described in this document.

Combustion in an oxygen atmosphere in a closed combustion vessel is the preferred method to digest biomass samples for a determination of sulfur, chlorine, fluorine and bromine content. An advantage of the method is that the digestion can be carried out in connection with the determination of the calorific value according to ISO 18125. Other analytical techniques may also be used for selected analytes. The determination of the resultant chlorine, sulfur, bromine and fluorine compounds can be done by different techniques.

Automatic equipment and alternative methods may also be used for selected analytes.

A list with typical sulfur, chlorine and fluorine contents of solid biofuels can be found in ISO 17225-1:2021, Annex B.