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Traditional Chinese medicine — Guidelines and specification for Chinese materia medica

Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — Lignes directrices et spécification relatives aux matières médicales chinoises

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Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **iv**
Introduction ..... **v**
1 Scope **1**
2 Normative references **1**
3 Terms and definitions **1**
4 Recommedations **2**
4.1 Total ash 2
4.2 Sulfated ash 2
4.3 Ash insoluble in hydrochloric acid 2
4.4 Heavy metals 2
4.5 Foreign matter 2
4.6 Identification 2
4.7 Pesticide residues 2
4.8 Sulfur dioxide 2
4.9 Aflatoxin 2
5 Specificiation indicators **3**
5.1 Origin 3
5.2 Growing method 3
5.3 Medicinal parts 4
5.4 Harvest time 4
5.5 Primary processing 5
5.6 Extraneous matter rate 5
5.7 Morphology 6
5.7.1 Individual number per 500 g 6
5.7.2 Length per piece 6
5.7.3 Thickness per piece 7
5.7.4 Diameter per piece 7
5.7.5 Colour 8
6 Marking, labelling, packaging, transport and storage **8**
6.1 Marking and labelling 8
6.2 Packaging 8
6.3 Transport and storage 8
Bibliography **9**

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional medicine*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Traditional Chinese medicine*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 21300:2019), which has been technically revised.

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The main changes are as follows:

— Title of Clause 4 has been changed from "Requirements" to “Recommendations”;

— 4.4, 4.5,4.6, 4.7, 4.8,4.9, the word “shall” has been changed to “should”.

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Introduction

Chinese materia medica is a special commodity used for preventing and treating diseases. As an important component of traditional medicine, the quality of Chinese materia medica directly affects clinical efficacy and safety. However, due to the wide range of sources and diverse cultivation and processing methods of Chinese materia medica, there is a lack of unified standards for the specifications of Chinese materia medica in the global market, resulting in uneven quality and causing inconvenience to the production, circulation and use of Chinese materia medica. In order to ensure the quality of Chinese materia medica, it is important to establish a unified standard for the specifications of Chinese materia medica.

There are many factors that affect the specifications of Chinese materia medica, such as origin, growing method, medicinal parts, harvest time, processing method, etc. This document lists various factors that affect the specifications, and provides a basis for the development of specifications for individual Chinese materia medica by establishing general standards. It can help regulate the order of the Chinese medicine market and continuously improve the controllability and stability of the quality of Chinese medicinal materials.

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