
International Standard



2256

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Dried mint (spearmint) (*Mentha spicata* Linnaeus syn. *Mentha viridis* Linnaeus) — Specification

Menthe verte ou menthe douce (Mentha spicata Linnaeus syn. Mentha viridis Linnaeus) séchée — Spécifications

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Foreword

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Dried mint (spearmint) (*Mentha spicata* Linnaeus syn. *Mentha viridis* Linnaeus) — Specification

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies requirements for leaves of dried mint (spearmint)¹⁾ in whole, broken or rubbed form.

The term “dried mint” includes dehydrated mint, i.e. artificially dried mint.

It does not apply to dried peppermint, for which requirements are given in ISO 5563.

Recommendations relating to storage and transport conditions are given in the annex.

2 References

ISO 927, *Spices and condiments — Determination of extraneous matter content.*

ISO 928, *Spices and condiments — Determination of total ash.*

ISO 930, *Spices and condiments — Determination of acid insoluble ash.*

ISO 939, *Spices and condiments — Determination of moisture content — Entrainment method.*

ISO 948, *Spices and condiments — Sampling.*

ISO 2825, *Spices and condiments — Preparation of a ground sample for analysis.*

ISO 6571, *Spices, condiments and herbs — Determination of volatile oil content.*

3 Description

Dried mint is constituted by dried leaves or by broken or rubbed, dried leaves of any single cultivar of *Mentha spicata* Linnaeus syn. *Mentha viridis* Linnaeus, and related hybrids,²⁾ collected prior to, or at the commencement of, flowering.

The leaves are dull green or greyish green.

4 Requirements

4.1 Odour and flavour

Dried mint shall have a strong, characteristic flavour and odour, a sweet flavour, and shall be free from earthy or decaying vegetable odours and foreign odours.

4.2 Freedom from insects, moulds, etc.

Dried mint shall be free from living insects and moulds, and shall be practically free from dead insects, insect fragments and rodent contamination visible to the naked eye (corrected, if necessary, for abnormal vision) or with such magnification as may be necessary in any particular case. If the magnification exceeds X 10, this fact shall be stated in the test report.

4.3 Extraneous matter

The proportion of leaves of species of mint other than dried mint or parts of other plants shall not exceed 1 % (*m/m*) when determined by the method specified in ISO 927.

NOTE — Yellow and brown leaf is usually present in dried mint, with some crushed stalk and possibly buds. None of these is considered to be extraneous matter. It is normal trade practice for buyer and seller to reach agreement on the amount of such matter, based on visual examination of a representative sample.

1) Hereafter called “dried mint”.

2) The acceptability of particular plants may vary with their habitat.