International Standard 6488

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Tobacco — Determination of water content (Reference method)

Tabac — Détermination de la teneur en eau (Méthode de référence)

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Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 6488 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 126, *Tobacco and tobacco products*, and was circulated to the member bodies in January 1980.

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Tobacco — Determination of water content (Reference method)

0 Introduction

The method specified in this International Standard is suitable as a reference method for the determination of the water in tobacco, and is the method for the calibration of routine methods (e.g. drying in an oven, electrical methods).

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a reference method for the determination of the water content of tobacco by means of distillation using a solvent non-miscible with water.

The method is applicable to unmanufactured tobacco and manufactured tobacco, in particular cut tobacco.

NOTE — For certain manufactured tobaccos, certain types of humectants at high levels can give different results.

2 References

ISO 684, *Laboratory glassware — One-mark pipettes.*

ISO 835, *Laboratory glassware — Graduated pipettes.* [1)]

ISO 4797, *Laboratory glassware — Flasks with conical ground joints.*

ISO 4799, *Laboratory glassware — Condensers.*

3 Principle

Entrainment of water of a test portion by means of boiling in a solvent non-miscible with water and separation of the entrained water. Measurement of the volume of water using a graduated tube and calculation of the percentage by mass of water contained in the test portion.

4 Reagents

During the analysis, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade.

4.1 Cyclohexane.

NOTES

1 As the solubility of water in cyclohexane is only 70 µl/l, it can be considered as having no significant effect on the results of the determination.

2 As cyclohexane is dangerous appropriate precautions should be taken during its use.

4.2 Silica gel, with a water-content indicator (blue-gel).

4.3 Anhydrous solid or liquid wetting agent.

NOTE — A sodium arylalkylsulphate is recommended as a liquid wetting agent. A polyethyloxylated lauryl alcohol is recommended as a solid wetting agent.

5 Apparatus

5.1 Balance, capable of weighing 500 g to the nearest 0,01 g.

5.2 Distillation apparatus, consisting of the following items.

NOTE — A suitable apparatus is shown in figure 1.

5.2.1 Round-bottom flask, of capacity 1 000 ml, complying with ISO 4797.

5.2.2 Round-bottom flask, of capacity 50 and 100 ml, complying with ISO 4797.

NOTE — The flask (5.2.2) is necessary in order to close the apparatus when it is not being used.

1) At present at the stage of draft. (Revision of ISO/R 835.)

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