

**Markundersökningar – Vägledning vid laboratorie-  
provning av organiska kemikaliers biologiska  
nedbrytning i jord under anaeroba förhållanden**

**Soil quality – Guidance on laboratory testing  
for biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil  
under anaerobic conditions**

ICS 13.080.10; 13.080.30

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Denna standard utgörs av den engelska versionen av den internationella standarden ISO 15473:2002, Soil quality – Guidance on the laboratory testing for biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil under anaerobic conditions.

I denna Internationella standard ges vägledning vid val av test och av testmetod för bestämning av organiska kemikaliers nedbrytning i jordprover under anaeroba förhållanden.

I SIS "Katalog över svensk standard" framgår vilka av de publikationer som omnämns i denna standard som har fastställts som svensk standard och som har översatts till svenska.

This Swedish standard consists of the English version of ISO 15473:2002, Soil quality – Guidance on the laboratory testing for biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil under anaerobic conditions.

This International Standard gives guidance on the selection and method of appropriate tests for the determination of biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil samples under anaerobic conditions

Swedish standards corresponding to documents referred to in this Standard are listed in "Catalogue of Swedish Standards" issued by SIS.

Dokumentet består av 17 sidor.

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 15473 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 190, *Soil quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Biological methods*.

## Introduction

Organic chemicals can be introduced into the soil both intentionally and accidentally, after which they can degrade as a result of biological action. For chemicals which do degrade, the rate of degradation can vary considerably, depending not only on the molecular structure of the chemical, but also on soil conditions such as temperature, water and oxygen availability which influence microbial activity. The activity of microorganisms often plays a major role in degradative processes.

ISO 11266 [3] gives general guidelines for the selection and method of tests to determine the biodegradation of organic chemicals in soils under aerobic conditions.

It is necessary to have laboratory tests available to estimate the rate and extent of biodegradation under anaerobic conditions, and to assess the capability of soil to degrade organic chemicals under these conditions.

This International Standard gives guidance for the method of tests to determine the biodegradation of organic chemicals in soils under anaerobic conditions.



# Soil quality — Guidance on laboratory testing for biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil under anaerobic conditions

## 1 Scope

This International Standard gives guidance on the selection and method of appropriate tests for the determination of biodegradation of organic chemicals in soil samples under anaerobic conditions.

NOTE If the method is intended for tests in the framework of the registration of chemicals, an OECD Guideline on soil degradation [20] gives useful guidance on additional test requirements.

## 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 10381-6:1993, *Soil quality — Sampling — Part 6: Guidance on the collection, handling and storage of soil for the assessment of aerobic microbial processes in the laboratory*

ISO 10390:1994, *Soil quality — Determination of pH*

ISO 10694:1995, *Soil quality — Determination of organic and total carbon after dry combustion (elementary analysis)*

ISO 11260:1994, *Soil quality — Determination of effective cation exchange capacity and base saturation level using barium chloride solution*

ISO 11261:1995, *Soil quality — Determination of total nitrogen — Modified Kjeldahl method*

ISO 11271, *Soil quality — Determination of redox potential — Field method*

ISO 11274:1998, *Soil quality — Determination of the water retention characteristic — Laboratory methods*

ISO 11277:1998, *Soil quality — Determination of particle size distribution in mineral soil material — Method by sieving and sedimentation*

ISO 14239:1997, *Soil quality — Laboratory incubation systems for measuring the mineralization of organic chemicals in soil under aerobic conditions*

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

**ISO 15473:2002(E)****3.1****biodegradation**

molecular degradation of an organic substance resulting from the actions of living organisms

[ISO 11266]

**3.2****primary biodegradation**

the degradation of a substance to an extent sufficient to remove some characteristic property of the parent molecule. In practice this will be determined by analysis as a loss of parent compound or some specific function of the parent compound

[ISO 11266]

**3.3****ultimate biodegradation**

breakdown of an organic compound to carbon dioxide, methane, water, mineral salts of any other elements present, and products associated with the normal anaerobic processes of microorganisms

**3.4****anaerobic transformation**

reaction occurring under exclusion of oxygen (reducing conditions)

NOTE Such a reaction generally occurs when the redox potential ( $E_h$ ) is less than 200 mV [17].

**3.5****persistence**

residence time of a chemical species in a specifically defined compartment of the environment

[ISO 11266]

**3.6****DT-50****disappearance time 50**

time taken for the concentration of a given compound to be reduced by 50 % of its original value

[ISO 11266]

**3.7****DT-90****disappearance time 90**

time taken for the concentration of a given compound to be reduced by 90 % of its original value

[ISO 11266]

**3.8****bound residue****non-extractable residue**

chemical species in soils originating from, for example, organic molecules that are not extracted by methods which do not significantly change the chemical nature of the residue

NOTE These non-extractable residues are considered to exclude fragments recycled through metabolic pathways leading to natural products [12].

**3.9****soil**

upper layer of the earth's crust composed of mineral parts, organic substances, water, air and living matter

[ISO 11074-1]