



BSI Standards Publication

**Liming materials —
Determination of product
effect on soil pH — Soil
incubation method**

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 14984:2016. It supersedes BS EN 14984:2006 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CII/37, Fertilisers and related chemicals.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2016.
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2016

ISBN 978 0 580 87460 4

ICS 65.080

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 July 2016.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
------	---------------

EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 14984

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

July 2016

ICS 65.080

Supersedes EN 14984:2006

English Version

Liming materials - Determination of product effect on soil pH - Soil incubation method

Amendements minéraux basiques - Détermination de
l'effet d'un produit sur le pH d'un sol - Méthode par
incubation du sol

Kalkdünger - Bestimmung des Produkteinflusses auf
des Boden-pH-Wert - Bodeninkubationsverfahren

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 19 May 2016.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

Contents		Page
European Foreword		4
Introduction		5
1	Scope	6
2	Normative references	6
3	Terms and definitions	7
4	Principle	9
4.1	General.....	9
4.2	Method A.....	9
4.3	Method B.....	9
5	Method A	10
5.1	Reagents and materials.....	10
5.1.1	Reference soil,	10
5.1.2	Reference liming material (RLM),.....	10
5.1.3	Water,	10
5.2	Apparatus.....	10
5.2.1	Temperature-controlled room,.....	10
5.2.2	pH meter,.....	10
5.2.3	Beakers,	10
5.2.4	Pots,.....	10
5.2.5	Volumetric spoons,.....	10
5.2.6	Magnetic stirrer	10
5.2.7	Balance,.....	10
5.2.8	Precision balance,	10
5.2.9	Test sieves,.....	11
5.3	Sampling of products and sample preparation.....	11
5.4	Procedure.....	11
5.4.1	Preparation of the standard soil.....	11
5.4.2	Test portions.....	11
5.4.3	Preparation of pots.....	11
5.4.4	Incubation.....	12
5.4.5	pH measurements	12
5.5	Expression of results.....	12
5.6	Precision.....	14
5.6.1	General.....	14
5.6.2	Repeatability.....	14
5.6.3	Reproducibility	16
6	Method B	17
6.1	Reagents and materials.....	17
6.1.1	Standard soil,.....	17
6.1.2	Alternative standard soils,.....	18
6.1.3	Reference liming material,	18
6.1.4	Water,	18
6.2	Apparatus.....	18
6.2.1	Temperature-controlled room,.....	18

6.2.2	pH meter,	19
6.2.3	Beakers,.....	19
6.2.4	Pots,	19
6.2.5	Volumetric spoons,.....	19
6.2.6	Magnetic stirrer.....	19
6.2.7	Balance,	19
6.2.8	Precision balance,.....	19
6.2.9	Test sieves,	19
6.3	Sampling of products and sample preparation	19
6.4	Procedure	20
6.4.1	Preparation of the standard soil	20
6.4.2	Test portions	20
6.4.3	Preparation of pots	20
6.4.4	Incubation	21
6.4.5	pH measurements.....	21
6.5	Expression of results	21
6.5.1	pH measurements.....	21
6.5.2	Soil-lime efficiency data	21
6.6	Precision	22
6.6.1	General	22
6.6.2	Repeatability	22
6.6.3	Reproducibility.....	23
7	Test report	27
Annex A (informative) Variations to the test methods		28
A.1	General	28
A.2	Variations	28
A.2.1	Different measurement periods.....	28
A.2.2	Supply of different amounts	28
A.2.3	Soil different from the standard soil.....	28
A.2.4	Different incubation temperature.....	29
A.2.5	Additional measurements	29
Annex B (normative) Determination of moisture at full soil water holding capacity		30
Bibliography		32

European Foreword

This document (EN 14984:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 260 “Fertilizers and liming materials”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by January 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2017.

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

This document supersedes EN 14984:2006.

The following changes have been made to the former edition:

- a) effective neutralizing value by incubation (*ENVI*) added as alternative way for the expression of results;
- b) Formula for calculation of *ENVI* for method A added;
- c) Formula for calculation of *ENVI* for method B added;
- d) editorially revised.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

The chemical methods for determining the neutralizing value (*NV*) (see EN 12945) and the reactivity (see EN 13971 and EN 16357) of liming materials are not always appropriate indicators for any material claimed to have a liming effect in the soil, particularly materials with a high organic matter content.

The biological mineralization of organic matter contained in some products can, in the field, have an effect on pH, which cannot be quantified by the chemical methods.

The two methods described in this document overcome these problems.

Both methods characterize products through their effect on the pH of a soil under controlled, standard conditions, and establish the efficiency of products when applied to a standard soil.

Method A specifies a reference soil with tight characteristics with respect to pH range before incubation, cation exchange capacity (CEC), mass fraction of organic carbon, and mass fraction of particles finer than 0,002 mm (clay).

Method B can apply the same reference soil as Method A, but also allows alternative standard soils with a wider content of particles finer than 0,002 mm (clay), and a wider range of mass fraction of organic matter. Clay and organic matter are the decisive reactants to a liming material

However, attention is drawn to the limitations of these methods. They are laboratory methods carried out under controlled conditions and care should be taken when applying the results to field conditions. The quality of incorporation of the liming material into the soil and the eventual need to break down the product agglomerates, together with the soil and climate conditions, can affect the results. Nevertheless, these methods allow a comparison of the potential neutralizing effect of liming products under optimum and reproducible conditions.

1 Scope

This document specifies two methods (method A and method B) of measuring the effect of the addition of any material claimed to have a liming effect on the soil, using the same basic principles.

Method A measures the changes to the soil pH resulting from the addition of any material claimed to have a liming effect on a standard soil, measured over a period of one month.

Method B assesses the efficiency of any material claimed to have a liming effect, using a range of defined soils and measured over a period of up to 2,5 years.

The methods are not applicable to mineral products coarser than 6,3 mm for method A or 20 mm for method B, determined according to EN 12948.

NOTE These methods allow comparison of products under controlled climatic conditions but do not replace field experiments.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 1482-1, *Fertilizers and liming materials - Sampling and sample preparation - Part 1: Sampling*

EN 1482-3, *Fertilizers and liming materials — Sampling and sample preparation — Part 3: Sampling of static heaps*

EN 12048, *Solid fertilizers and liming materials - Determination of moisture content - Gravimetric method by drying at (105 +/- 2)°C (ISO 8190:1992 modified)*

EN 12049, *Solid fertilizers and liming materials - Determination of moisture content - Gravimetric method by drying under reduced pressure (ISO 8189:1992 modified)*

EN 12945, *Liming materials - Determination of neutralizing value - Titrimetric methods*

EN 12948, *Liming materials - Determination of size distribution by dry and wet sieving*

EN 13040, *Soil improvers and growing media - Sample preparation for chemical and physical tests, determination of dry matter content, moisture content and laboratory compacted bulk density*

EN ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use - Specification and test methods (ISO 3696)*

ISO 3310-1, *Test sieves — Technical requirements and testing — Part 1: Test sieves of metal wire cloth*

ISO 3310-2, *Test sieves — Technical requirements and testing — Part 2: Test sieves of perforated metal plate*

ISO 10390:2005, *Soil quality — Determination of pH*

ISO 11272, *Soil quality — Determination of dry bulk density*

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