Methods of test for

Phosphoric acid (orthophosphoric acid) for industrial use —

Part 2: Determination of iron content



Committees responsible for this British Standard

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Association of Public Analysts

British Coal Corporation

Chemical Industries Association

Department of Trade and Industry (Laboratory of the Government Chemist)

Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association Ltd.

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Foreword

This Part of BS 4258 has been prepared under the direction of the Chemicals Standards Policy Committee to provide methods for the analysis of phosphoric acid (orthophosphoric acid) for industrial use. This Part supersedes BS 4285-2:1968, which is withdrawn, and from which it differs by making substantial reference to BS 6337-3, possession of which is essential, and by using 1,10-phenanthroline for formation of the coloured complex rather than 2,2'-bipyridyl. This Part includes a procedure for the preparation of a test solution suitable for subsequent treatment and determination of iron content in accordance with the general method of BS 6337-3 which reflects current practice in technique and presentation.

This Part of BS 4258 is related to ISO/R 849, from which it differs in the same way as from BS 4258-2:1968.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 and 2, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

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1 Scope

This Part of BS 4258 describes a spectrometric method for determination of the iron content of phosphoric acid (orthophosphoric acid) for industrial use. It is applicable to products having an iron content of not lower than 20 mg/kg.

NOTE 1 A reduced lower limit for applicability cannot be quoted for this method because of the risk of interference of phosphate in the development of colour (see clause **2** of BS 6337-3:1983).

NOTE 2 The titles of the publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

2 Principle

The principle is described in clause **3** of BS 6337-3:1983.

3 Reagents

The reagents described in clause 4 of BS 6337-3:1983 and water complying with grade 3 of BS 3978 are required.

4 Apparatus

- **4.1** *General.* The apparatus described in clause **5** of BS 6337-3:1983, together with the following, is required.
- **4.2** One-mark volumetric flask, 100 mL, complying with BS 1792, class B.

5 Procedure

5.1 Test portion and preparation of the test solution

Weigh, to the nearest 0.0001 g, a test portion of approximately 1 g. Transfer quantitatively to the volumetric flask (4.2) and add 10 mL of the hydrochloric acid (see 4.1 of BS 6337-3:1983). Dilute to the mark with water and mix well.

NOTE $\,$ It is recommended that reference be made to the information on sampling given in BS 4258-12.

5.2 Determination

Take an aliquot portion of the test solution not exceeding 50 mL in volume and not containing more than $500~\mu g$ of iron (expressed as Fe). Determine the iron content of this aliquot portion by following the procedure described in clause **6** of BS 6337-3:1983.

6 Calculation and expression of results

Calculate the mass of iron in the aliquot portion of the test solution in accordance with clause **7** of BS 6337-3:1983. The iron content, expressed as milligrams of iron (Fe) per kilogram, is given by the following expression:

$$\frac{M_1 - M_2}{M_0} \times \frac{100}{V}$$

where

- M_0 is the mass of the test portion (see 5.1) (in g);
- M_1 is the mass of iron found in the aliquot portion of the test solution (see 5.2) (in μ g);
- M_2 is the mass of iron found in the aliquot portion of the blank test solution (see **6.2** of BS 6337-3:1983) (in μ g);
- V is the volume of the aliquot portion of the test solution (see 5.2) (in mL).

7 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a) a complete identification of the sample;
- b) a reference to this British Standard, i.e. BS 4258-2:1989;
- c) the results expressed in accordance with clause **6**;
- d) details of any unusual features noted during the determination;
- e) any operation not included in this British Standard or regarded as optional.

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Publications referred to

BS 1792, Specification for one-mark volumetric flasks.

BS 3978, Specification for water for laboratory use.

 $BS\ 4258, Methods\ of\ test\ for\ phosphoric\ acid\ (orthophosphoric\ acid)\ for\ industrial\ use.$

BS 4258-12, Guide to sampling techniques.

BS 6337, General methods of chemical analysis.

BS 6337-3, Method for determination of iron content (1,10-phenanthroline spectrophotometric method).

ISO/R 849, Phosphoric acid for industrial use — Determination of iron content — 2,2'-Bipyridyl spectrophotometric method¹⁾.

¹⁾ Referred to in the foreword only.

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