



BSI Standards Publication

# Inorganic micronutrient fertilizers — Determination of the chelated micronutrient content and the chelated fraction of micronutrients

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Part 1: Treatment with a cation exchange resin

## National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/TS 17786-1:2022.

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 committee manager.

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Published by BSI Standards Limited 2022

ISBN 978 0 55 17914 9

ICS 65.080

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This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 July 2022.

### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION  
SPÉCIFICATION TECHNIQUE  
TECHNISCHE SPEZIFIKATION

**CEN/TS 17786-1**

April 2022

ICS 65.080

English Version

**Inorganic micronutrient fertilizers - Determination of the  
chelated micronutrient content and the chelated fraction  
of micronutrients - Part 1: Treatment with a cation  
exchange resin**

Engrais inorganiques à base d'oligo-éléments -  
Détermination de la teneur en oligo-éléments chélatés  
et de la fraction chélatée des oligo-éléments - Partie 1 :  
Traitement avec une résine échangeuse de cations

Anorganische Spurennährstoffdüngemittel -  
Bestimmung des Gehaltes an chelatisierten  
Spurennährstoffen und des chelatisierten Anteils an  
Spurennährstoffen - Teil 1: Behandlung mit einem  
Kationenaustauscherharz

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 21 February 2022 for provisional application.

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## European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 17786-1:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 260 “Fertilizers and liming materials”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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.

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## Introduction

Micronutrients are considered to be, in plant nutrition, a number of elements known to be needed in small amounts for proper plant growth and development. The most common are Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Molybdenum (Mo), Copper (Cu), Zinc (Zn) and Boron (B).

If an inorganic micronutrient fertilizer contains a substance, or one of the substances in the mixture, which is intended to enhance the long term availability to plants of micronutrients in the EU fertilizing product, that substance is either a chelating agent or a complexing agent.

The chelating agents are divided into two groups<sup>1</sup>:

- Group 1: EDTA, DTPA, HEEDTA, IDHA and [S,S]-EDDS; and
- Group 2: Chelating agents present in UVCB (unknown or variable composition, complex reaction products or biological materials) chelates including [o,o] EDDHA, [o,p] EDDHA, [o,p] EDDHMA, HBED and [o,o] EDDHSA.

This document defines the test method to be used in order to measure the compliance with the chelated fraction of iron in product function category (PFC) 1(C) (II)(a) (classified according to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 [9]) for fertilizers containing one or more chelating agents of Group 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Abbreviated terms are described in Annex A.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the chelated iron content and the chelated fraction of iron, in UVCB chelates, EDDHA, EDDHMA, HBED, EDDHSA, in inorganic micronutrient fertilizers by the treatment with a cation exchange resin.

The limit of determination of the chelated iron content highly depends on the specific electrical conductivity of the sample, on the amount of nutrient present, and varies between 0,005 % in simple matrices with high amounts of micronutrient and 0,5 % in more complex cases (see 9.1).

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 12944-1, *Fertilizers and liming materials and soil improvers — Vocabulary — Part 1: General terms*

EN 12944-2, *Fertilizers and liming materials and soil improvers — Vocabulary — Part 2: Terms relating to fertilizers*

EN 16962, *Fertilizers — Extraction of water soluble micro-nutrients in fertilizers and removal of organic compounds from fertilizer extracts*

EN 16963, *Fertilizers — Determination of boron, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum and zinc using ICP-AES*

EN 16965, *Fertilizers — Determination of cobalt, copper, iron, manganese and zinc using flame atomic absorption spectrometry (FAAS)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 12944-1 and EN 12944-2 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **chelated fraction of a micronutrient**

ratio of the chelated micronutrient content and the water-soluble micronutrient content

Note 1 to entry: The chelated fraction of a micronutrient is expressed as a percentage.