
**Pesticides and other agrochemicals —
Principles for the selection of
common names**

*Produits phytosanitaires et assimilés — Principes pour le choix des
noms communs*



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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 81, *Common names for pesticides and other agrochemicals*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 257:2004), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- Annex A (Procedure for the establishment of common names for pesticides and other agrochemicals) that was included in previous editions has been removed from this document and incorporated in the Terms of Reference for the Maintenance Agency for ISO 1750.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document contains principles for the construction of common names for pesticides and other agrochemicals. The intention is to create short, distinctive, easily pronounced names, which will be common to all languages, as far as is possible. This document contains recommended names for common ions and radicals, as well as recommended stems for different chemical structures. Therefore, the common name should reflect any relationship with chemicals of a similar structure. However, it is important to avoid confusion between common names and existing names, whether they are other common names, trade names or chemical names. Recommendations on how to name isomers, salts, esters, etc. are also included. Common names are intended to be permanent; they do not expire, and they are not withdrawn when a substance is no longer marketed. These principles are defined for the guidance of proposers of such common names and for the operation of ISO/TC 81 and of the Maintenance Agency for ISO 1750.

Pesticides and other agrochemicals — Principles for the selection of common names

1 Scope

This document gives principles for creating common names for pesticides and other agrochemicals. These principles are defined for the guidance of proposers of such common names. The procedure for the establishment of common names is given in the Terms of Reference of the Maintenance Agency for ISO 1750, *Pesticides and other agrochemicals — Common names*.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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 <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

common name

name freely available for common use in identifying a chemical substance without recourse to its systematic chemical name

4 Purpose of common names

4.1 The purpose of a common name is to provide a short, distinctive, easily pronounced name for a substance, the full chemical name of which is too complex for convenient use in science, commerce and official regulations.

4.2 Because a common name has to be freely available for use in describing the substance for which it has been coined, it should not be permitted to become a privately-owned trademark with respect to identical or similar goods.

4.3 In order to achieve the desired goal of creating a common name that is generally acceptable internationally, rejection of any proposed common name by individual ISO Member Bodies should only be based on serious grounds and then only after every possible effort has been made to overcome the impediment to local acceptability.

5 Principles for selection

5.1 General

5.1.1 No substance should be given a common name if its chemical name is reasonably short and distinctive (e.g. metaldehyde, carbon tetrachloride).