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Leather — Raw skins — Guidelines for preservation of goat and sheep skins

Cuir — Peaux brutes — Lignes directrices pour la préservation des peaux de chèvre et de mouton

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Foreword

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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).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 120 *Leather*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Raw hides and skins, including pickled pelts*.

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.

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Introduction

This document provides guidelines for processes of preservation that lead to a higher quality of preserved goat and sheep skins. Such preserved goat and sheep skins are subsequently subjected to further treatments for manufacturing of leather and eventually for production of leather goods.

This document has indicated preservation procedures that should be followed to prevent either of the following situations:

— conditions occurring through the preservation treatments which affect the processability of skins;

— various defects that can form on goat and sheep skins due to inadequate preservation conditions and during the period of storage and delivery to the users.

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Leather — Raw skins — Guidelines for preservation of goat and sheep skins

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1 Scope

This document provides guidelines for various preservation methods for raw goat and sheep skins. The preservation methods are needed to suppress microbiological activity and to maintain the quality of the skins during storage.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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/

4 Characteristics of salt and auxiliary substances used in preservation processes

4.1 Characteristics of salt

For preservation by salting, clean salt should be used. Halophilic bacteria get acclimatised to salt media and can grow even in the presence of high salt concentrations. During bacterial growth, they produce pink, red or violet pigments on salted skins, called red-heat. Sea or lake salt tends to be more susceptible to contamination risk and development of red-heat. Hence, using rock salt is advantageous as it is free from chemical impurities.

Salt used in preservation processes should preferably contain 98 % sodium chloride (NaCl) of total dry weight and should not contain clumped particles. The impurities should not exceed the following limits otherwise the salt may negatively affect the quality of the finished product:

— Total calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) compounds in salt: 1 %.

— Total iron (Fe) compounds: 0,01 %.

Particle size of salt is also important to achieve effective preservation. If salt particles are very fine, salt tends to form pasty patches with uneven coverage. If salt particles are very coarse, they can immediately fall off the skin while handling. Particle size also affects speed of dissolution; therefore, to ensure an appropriate dissolution, particle size of salt should be 2 mm to 3 mm.

4.2 Quantity of salt

To ensure proper dehydration of raw skins, the quantity of salt should not be less than 30 % of the fresh weight.

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