
**Fertilizers, soil conditioners and
beneficial substances — Classification**

Engrais, amendements et substances bénéfiques — Classification



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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

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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 134, *Fertilizers, soil conditioners and beneficial substances*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7851:1983), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- "beneficial substances" and related classifications have been added ([Clause 6](#));
- the "main classification principle" ([4.1](#)) and the "auxiliary classification principle" ([4.2](#)) have been added;
- definitions have been modified according to ISO 8157;
- [Figure A.1](#) has been modified to reflect the three changes highlighted in this list.

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.

Fertilizers, soil conditioners and beneficial substances — Classification

1 Scope

This document establishes a system of classification for fertilizers, soil conditioners and beneficial substances. The system of classification is in accordance with:

- the nutrient contents of the fertilizer;
- the effect of the fertilizer;
- the type of product; and
- the acidity and alkalinity of the product as a supplement.

It is applicable to fertilizers, soil conditioners and beneficial substances. The classification scheme for fertilizers, soil conditioners and beneficial substances (in accordance with nutrient contents) is shown in [Annex A](#).

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.

ISO 8157, *Fertilizers and soil conditioners — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 8157 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology 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/>

4 Classification for fertilizers

4.1 Main classification principle (in accordance with nutrient contents)

4.1.1 Inorganic fertilizers

4.1.1.1 Overview

This subclause concerns fertilizers without organic material other than those defined as additives.

NOTE Calcium cyanamide, urea and its condensation products and chelated and complex micronutrients (elements) are, by convention, recognized as inorganic fertilizers.