

Earthworks - Chemical tests - Part 1: Determination of  
loss on ignition

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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See Eesti standard EVS-EN 17685-1:2023 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 17685-1:2023 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 17685-1:2023 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 17685-1:2023.
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English Version

## Earthworks - Chemical tests - Part 1: Determination of loss on ignition

Terrassements - Essais chimiques - Partie 1 :  
Détermination de la perte au feu

Erdarbeiten - Chemische Prüfverfahren - Teil 1:  
Bestimmung des Glühverlusts

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## European foreword

This document (EN 17685-1:2023) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 396 “Earthworks”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2023, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2023.

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

The method described in this document has been developed from EN 15935:2021 which was prepared by CEN/TC 444 "Environmental characterization of solid matrices". Adjustments were made to make the method more suitable for the materials used in earthworks, particularly for the pretreatment of the sample.

This document specifies a method for the determination of the loss on ignition ( $w_{LOI}$ ) of fine, intermediate, composite and coarse soils, organic soils and anthropogenic materials (according to EN 16907-2) after ignition under air at 550°C. A method is given in Annex B in order to estimate the organic matter content ( $C_{OM}$ ) from the value of  $w_{LOI}$ . The organic matter content  $C_{OM}$  is used for the classification of soils with organic matter content  $C_{OM}$  greater than 2 % according EN 16907-2 (Table 4 in EN 16907-2:2018).

Other methods to estimate the organic content is e.g. wet burning with  $H_2O_2$  or  $KMnO_4$ .

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the loss on ignition ( $w_{LOI}$ ) of fine, intermediate, composite and coarse soils, organic soils and anthropogenic materials (according to EN 16907-2) after ignition under air at 550°C.

NOTE The loss of mass suffered by these materials at 550 °C is usually due to the release of volatile compounds, water (absorbed, crystalized or structural) and gases from decomposition of organic matter and inorganic substances such as sulfur, sulfides or hydroxides (e.g.  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $SO_2$ ).

A method is given in Annex B in order to estimate the organic matter content ( $C_{OM}$ ) from the value of  $w_{LOI}$  for clayey soils.

## 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 ISO 17892-12, *Geotechnical investigation and testing - Laboratory testing of soil - Part 12: Determination of liquid and plastic limits (ISO 17892-12)*

ISO 3310-1, *Test sieves — Technical requirements and testing — Part 1: Test sieves of metal wire cloth*

## 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

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

## 4 Abbreviations and symbols

$C_{OM}$	Organic matter content, deduced from $w_{LOI}$	dimensionless (%)
$D_{max}$	Maximum diameter of particles in a soil mass	mm
LOI	Loss On Ignition	
$m_c$	Mass of the empty crucible	g
$m_1$	Mass of the crucible containing the dried sample	g
$m_2$	Mass of the crucible containing the ignited sample	g
$w_L$	Liquid limit according to EN ISO 17892-12	dimensionless (%)