

**Textiles - Natural fibres - Generic names and definitions
(ISO 6938:2012)**

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NATIONAL FOREWORD

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ICS 01.040.59, 59.060.10

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English Version

Textiles - Natural fibres - Generic names and definitions (ISO 6938:2012)

Textiles - Fibres naturelles - Noms génériques et définitions
(ISO 6938:2012)

Textilien - Naturfasern - Gattungsnamen und Definitionen
(ISO 6938:2012)

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
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Foreword

The text of ISO 6938:2012 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/38 "Textiles" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 6938:2014 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and textile products" the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2015.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 6938:2012 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 6938:2014 without any modification.

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Textiles — Natural fibres — Generic names and definitions

1 Scope

This International Standard gives the generic names and the definitions of the most important natural fibres according to their specific constitution or origin.

An alphabetical list of names in common use is provided, together with the corresponding standardized denominations.

2 Types of fibres

2.1 Natural fibres

Natural fibres are fibres which occur in nature; they can be categorized according to their origin into animal, vegetable and mineral fibres.

2.2 Animal fibres

These include in particular:

- fibres from silk glands, secreted by some insects, particularly by larvae of the lepidopter order, in the form of two filaments of fibroin cemented together by sericin;
- fibres secreted by some molluscs;
- fibres from hair follicles, with a multicellular structure, composed of keratin, forming the fleece, the coat, the mane or the tail of certain animals.

2.3 Vegetable fibres

These include in particular:

- fibres from seeds: single-cell structure, generated by the epidermal cells of the seed, almost entirely constituted of cellulose;
- fibres from bast: composite fibres obtained from the bast of certain plants, mainly constituted of cellulose and accompanied with incrusting and intercellular materials (pectin bodies, hemicellulose, lignin);
- fibres from leaf: composite fibres obtained from leaves, constituted chiefly of cellulose plus incrusting and intercellular materials, consisting of lignin and hemicelluloses;
- fibres from fruit: composite fibres obtained from fruit, constituted chiefly of cellulose plus incrusting and intercellular materials, consisting of lignin and hemicelluloses.

2.4 Mineral fibres

Mineral fibres are obtained from rocks of fibrous structure, constituted principally of silicates.