

Plastics - Thermoplastic stretch films for wrapping
silage bales

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

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English Version

Plastics - Thermoplastic stretch films for wrapping silage bales

Plastiques - Films thermoplastiques étirables pour l'enrubannage de balles d'ensilage

Kunststoffe - Thermoplastische Stretchfolien zum Umwickeln von Silage-Ballen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 November 2017.

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Contents	Page
European foreword	5
Introduction	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	8
4 Materials	9
5 Solar reflectance	9
6 Durability	9
7 Requirements	10
7.1 General requirements	10
7.2 Requirement for visual inspection	11
7.3 Optional characteristics	11
7.3.1 <i>Airtightness and oxygen permeability determined on a wrapped artificial bale</i>	11
7.3.2 <i>Adhesion</i>	11
8 Test methods	12
8.1 Determination of film thickness	12
8.1.1 <i>Determination of single point thickness</i>	12
8.1.2 <i>Determination of average thickness</i>	12
8.2 Determination of width	12
8.3 Determination of core protrusion	12
8.4 Determination of film length	12
8.5 Determination of neck-in during film stretching	13
8.6 Determination of tensile characteristics	13
8.7 Determination of impact resistance	14
8.8 Determination of the tightening force	14
8.9 Determination of the tear resistance	14
8.10 Determination of total luminous transmittance	14
8.11 Determination of resistance to weathering	14
8.11.1 <i>Principle</i>	14
8.11.2 <i>Exposure to xenon-arc lamps</i>	14
8.11.3 <i>Procedure</i>	14
8.11.4 <i>Calculation and expression of results</i>	15
8.12 Determination of oxygen transmission rate	15
9 Film acceptance	15
10 Designation	15
11 Marking of packaging	16
12 Instructions for use of stretch films	16
13 Instructions for disposal of stretch films and end-of-life	16
Annex A (informative) Exposure to other light sources	17

A.1	Medium pressure mercury vapour lamps	17
A.2	Fluorescent UV lamps.....	18
Annex B (informative) Numerical correlation between durations of stretch forage films exposed to artificial weathering and a natural exposure.....		20
B.1	Exposure to xenon-arc lamps	20
B.2	Exposure to medium pressure mercury vapour lamps	20
B.3	Exposure to fluorescent UV lamps.....	21
Annex C (normative) Determination of solar reflectance.....		22
C.1	General.....	22
C.2	Principle	23
C.3	Terms and definitions	23
C.4	Apparatus.....	23
C.5	Test specimens	24
C.6	Procedure.....	24
C.7	Calculation of the solar reflectance R_s	24
Annex D (normative) Determination of neck-in during stretching.....		25
D.1	Introduction.....	25
D.2	Principle.....	25
D.3	Apparatus	25
D.4	Atmosphere for conditioning and testing.....	26
D.5	Procedure	26
Annex E (normative) Determination of tightening force		27
E.1	Principle.....	27
E.2	Apparatus	27
E.3	Procedure	27
E.4	Preparation of the specimens	27
E.5	Results.....	27
Annex F (informative) Determination of oxygen permeability and airtightness on an artificial bale.....		29
F.1	General.....	29
F.2	Principle.....	29
F.3	Apparatus	29
F.4	Films	31
F.5	Conditioning of the film.....	31
F.6	Procedure	32
Annex G (informative) Determination of adhesion characteristic		35
G.1	Principle.....	35
G.2	Apparatus	35

G.3	Preparation of the apparatus	35
G.4	Procedure	38
G.5	Report.....	39
	Annex H (informative) Guidance for use and disposal of stretch films.....	40
H.1	Instructions for storage of rolls	40
H.2	Instructions for baling.....	40
H.3	Instruction for wrapping.....	40
H.4	Instruction for storage of wrapped bales.....	41
H.5	Instruction for disposal of films.....	41
	Bibliography.....	43

European foreword

This document (EN 14932:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 249 "Plastics", the secretariat of which is held by NBN.

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 July 2018, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 2018.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 14932:2006.

In comparison with the previous edition, the following technical modifications have been made:

- classification according to the solar reflectance is changed;
- durability makes reference to the exposure of films by artificial weathering;
- optional characteristics are introduced by revised annexes;
- paragraphs on instructions for use, for disposal and end-of-life of stretch films have been added.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

The biological and practical requirements for silage stretch films and the interactions with the machinery, used for the wrapping and handling of round bales and square bales, have been considered for the design of this standard. However, it is difficult to simulate in laboratory conditions some parameters like leak tightness, oxygen permeability, temperature and the manner they interact.

In order to obtain silage of high quality it is essential to reduce unwanted microbiological activities to very low levels. It is necessary to limit the penetration of oxygen of air inside the bale in order to create the best conditions for conservation. Consequently, the wrapped bale should be as gas tight as possible.

This European Standard does not include as mandatory a test method for the determination of air tightness and oxygen permeability on artificial bale. Nevertheless, it is recommended for the manufacturers of stretch films to check this property near an appropriate testing laboratory.

There are discussions regarding how the temperature inside the bale will influence how different types of “good” and “bad” microbiological activities will develop in forage. Although the film can be made of any colour, it is a fact that the pigmentation or colour itself will influence the temperature inside the bale, due to sun-radiation. Therefore, this standard also includes a method for the determination of the solar reflectance of stretch films [1].

1 Scope

This European Standard specifies the requirements for dimensional, mechanical, oxygen transmission rate and optical characteristics of stretch thermoplastic films for wrapping bales used for ensilaging of forage. It specifies a classification for solar reflectance of the films.

This European Standard specifies also test methods to check these requirements.

It specifies also test methods for the determination of the airtightness and oxygen permeability determined on a wrapped artificial bale.

This European Standard is applicable to white, black or coloured films based on polyolefin materials. It covers the width range from 250 mm up to 1 000 mm.

The performances of the stretch films in conformance with this European Standard are based on the use of at least six layers of films, pre-stretched at a ratio between 60 % and 70 % for round bales and a ratio of 55 % and 65 % for wrapping square bales.

This European Standard also gives guidance for storage of rolls and instructions for wrapping, storage of wrapped bales and for disposal of films.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN ISO 527-1, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 1: General principles (ISO 527-1)*

EN ISO 527-3, *Plastics — Determination of tensile properties — Part 3: Test conditions for films and sheets (ISO 527-3)*

EN ISO 4892-2:2013, *Plastics — Methods of exposure to laboratory light sources — Part 2: Xenon-arc lamps (ISO 4892-2:2013)*

EN ISO 6383-2, *Plastics — Film and sheeting — Determination of tear resistance — Part 2: Elmendorf method (ISO 6383-2)*

EN ISO 7765-1, *Plastics film and sheeting — Determination of impact resistance by the free-falling dart method — Part 1: Staircase methods (ISO 7765-1)*

EN ISO 13468-2, *Plastics — Determination of the total luminous transmittance of transparent materials — Part 2: Double-beam instrument (ISO 13468-2)*

ISO 4592, *Plastics — Film and sheeting — Determination of length and width*

ISO 4593, *Plastics — Film and sheeting — Determination of thickness by mechanical scanning*

ISO 9845-1:1992, *Solar energy — Reference solar spectral irradiance at the ground at different receiving conditions — Part 1: Direct normal and hemispherical solar irradiance for air mass 1,5*

ISO 15105-2:2003, *Plastics — Film and sheeting — Determination of gas-transmission rate — Part 2: Equal-pressure method*