

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO**  
**542**

Second edition  
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## **Oilseeds — Sampling**

*Graines oléagineuses — Échantillonnage*



Reference number  
ISO 542:1990(E)

## 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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 542 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34, *Agricultural food products*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 542:1980), of which it constitutes a technical revision.

Annex A of this International Standard is for information only.

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## Introduction

Most oilseeds are marketed on the basis of the result of analysis of the samples, and disputes are invariably settled by reference to the samples, so that careless or inaccurate sampling could lead to misunderstanding, delay and unwarranted financial adjustments.

Correct sampling is a difficult process and one that requires the most careful attention. Emphasis cannot therefore be too strongly laid on the necessity of obtaining a representative sample of oilseeds for analysis.

The procedures given in this International Standard are recognized as good practice and it is strongly recommended that they be followed whenever practicable.

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## Oilseeds — Sampling

### 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies methods of sampling oilseeds.

### 2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the standard indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 664:1990, *Oilseeds — Reduction of laboratory sample to test sample*.

### 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

**3.1 consignment:** The quantity of oilseeds dispatched or received at one time and covered by a particular contract or shipping document. It may be composed of one or more lots or parts of a lot.

**3.2 lot:** A stated quantity of the consignment, of mass not exceeding 500 t, presumed to be of uniform characteristics, and which will allow the quality to be assessed.

**3.3 increment:** A small quantity of oilseeds taken at one time from a single position in the lot.

A series of increments is taken from different parts of the lot, so that, when they are bulked, they are representative of the lot.

**3.4 bulk sample:** The quantity of oilseeds obtained by combining and blending the increments taken from any one particular lot.

**3.5 laboratory sample:** Representative quantity of oilseeds obtained by division of the bulk sample and intended for analysis or other examination.

### 4 General

**4.1** Samples shall be fully representative of the lots from which they are taken. For this purpose, each consignment shall be divided, actually or notionally, into lots of mass not exceeding 500 t and a number of increments shall be taken from each lot and carefully mixed to give a bulk sample from which laboratory samples are obtained by successive division.

**4.2** Special care is necessary to ensure that all sampling apparatus is clean, dry, free from foreign odours and made from material which will not contaminate the oilseeds.

Sampling shall be carried out in such a manner as to protect the samples, the sampling instruments and the container in which the samples are placed from adventitious contamination such as rain, dust, etc.

Material adhering to the outside of the sampling instrument shall be removed before the contents are discharged.

**4.3** All sampling operations shall be carried out over a sufficiently short period of time so as to avoid any alteration in the composition of the samples. If one of the sampling stages will require too long a period of time, the samples or intermediate samples shall be preserved in airtight containers.

### 5 Apparatus

NOTE 1 Examples of sampling and division apparatus are illustrated in annex A. Many different types and variations of apparatus are available, and the dimensions and designs given in the figures are included solely as a guide.