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## Soil improvers and growing media - Sampling

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>See Eesti standard EVS-EN 12579:2024 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 12579:2024 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas.</p> <p>Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 10.04.2024.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusest.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN 12579:2024 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 12579:2024.</p> <p>This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p> <p>Date of Availability of the European standard is 10.04.2024.</p> <p>The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p>
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ICS 65.080

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English Version

## Soil improvers and growing media - Sampling

Amendements du sol et supports de culture -  
ÉchantillonnageBodenverbesserungsmittel und Kultursubstrate -  
Probenahme

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 2 March 2024.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 12579:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 223 “Soil improvers and growing media”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2024, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2024.

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.

This document supersedes EN 12579:2013.

In comparison with the previous edition EN 12579:2013, the following technical modifications have been made:

- requirements for liquid materials are added to the scope and the sampling procedure;
- requirements for sampling for microbiological testing have been added;
- addition of the following annexes:
  - Annex B (informative) with examples of apparatus for sampling liquid materials;
  - Annex C (informative) with methods of mixing for liquid materials;
  - Annex D (informative) with a schematic overview from the sampling procedure;
  - Annex E (normative) about the procedure for sampling bulk material;
  - Annex F (normative) about the procedure for sampling packaged material.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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

## Introduction

Soil improvers and growing media are very difficult to sample because of the variety of materials used and the inhomogeneous materials involved. When packed, some of them are also by their nature and the packaging and palletisation process subject to pressure which results in various degrees of compression which need to be counteracted prior to sampling.

The task is further complicated by the variety of sampling apparatus that can be used, the quantity to be represented by the sample and the degree of precision required bearing in mind the cost of testing.

This document gives a sampling method to overcome these difficulties. A suitably competent person should undertake this sampling.

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## 1 Scope

This document specifies methods for sampling of soil improvers and growing media for subsequent determination of quality and quantity. It outlines the principles to be taken into consideration when taking the sample and ensuring an adequate quantity is available for testing.

This document applies to material in solid form (including pre-shaped growing media) and liquid form.

This document is intended to be used by manufacturers, buyers and enforcement agencies in verifying claims made for these materials. It is not intended that it should necessarily be used for the purpose of manufacturing control.

The requirements of this document can differ from the national legal requirements for the declaration of the material concerned.

## 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.

prEN 13040-1<sup>1</sup>, *Soil improvers and growing media — Sample preparation for chemical and physical tests, determination of dry matter content, moisture content and laboratory compacted bulk density*

CEN/TS 17732, *Soil improvers and growing media — Terminology*

EN 12580, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of a quantity*

EN 15238, *Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of quantity for materials with particle size greater than 60 mm*

prEN 15761<sup>2</sup>, *Pre-shaped growing media — Determination of the dimensions measured and bulk density*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in CEN/TS 17732 and the following 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/>

### 3.1

#### **batch**

total quantity of material present assumed to have the same characteristics

Note 1 to entry: A batch is produced by the same process at the same time, under the same conditions and labelled in the same manner.

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<sup>1</sup> Under preparation.

<sup>2</sup> Under preparation.