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**Threshed tobacco — Determination of
residual stem content**

Tabac battu — Détermination de la teneur en côtes résiduelles



Foreword

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International Standard ISO 12195 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 126, *Tobacco and tobacco products*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Leaf tobacco*.

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard. Annexes B to D are for information only.

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Threshed tobacco — Determination of residual stem content

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the measurement of the stem content of strips of leaf tobacco.

It is applicable to strips arising from the operation of threshing or hand-stripping leaf tobacco, which can be from any tobacco type including flue-cured, burley and cigar tobacco.

The test method consists of taking of a sample of tobacco strips and passing it through a stem tester.

2 Definitions

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

2.1 stem: Main vein of a tobacco leaf.

2.2 lamina: Area between the veins of a tobacco leaf.

2.3 strips: Long pieces of threshed or stripped lamina.

2.4 threshing: Removal of the stem and side veins of tobacco leaves by mechanical means.

2.5 stripping: Removal of the stem from tobacco leaves, leaving the halves of the leaf more or less intact.

2.6 stem tester: Small-scale thresher and separating tower which threshes and classifies the residual stem from the lamina in a controlled manner.

2.7 stacked sieve-type shaker: Shaker which reproduces the circular and tapping motion given to test screens in sieving in a uniform manner.

3 Apparatus

3.1 Stem tester

The main operating features of the stem tester are given in 3.1.1 to 3.1.11, and are illustrated in figure 1.

3.1.1 Static pressure tapping apparatus and manometer

The tapping apparatus shall be fitted 254 mm above the flange immediately above the doors of the separating tower and as flush as possible to the internal wall. This is to avoid air turbulence and thus erratic readings. The static tapping apparatus is illustrated in figure 2.

A suitable manometer with a full-scale range of at least 0 mmH₂O to 5 mmH₂O is fitted to the tapping apparatus and set to zero. It indicates the air velocity in the separating tower.

3.1.2 Stem-deflector plates

Two stem-deflector plates are required to stop free stem and "heavies" being kicked out of the thresher and lost to the test. The first is fitted to the end of the vibratory conveyor feeding into the top of the thresher housing; the second is fitted to the base of the thresher (see figures 3 and 4).

Damper C sited at the air-flow inlet below the thresher shall be removed (see 3.1.8).