

***Indian Standard***

**METHOD OF SAMPLING FOR  
THE DETERMINATION OF  
PESTICIDE RESIDUES**

**PART 1 AGRICULTURAL AND  
FOOD COMMODITIES**

( First Reprint OCTOBER 1997 )

UDC 664 : 543 (632.951.028)

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**Gr 3**

*July* 1986

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*Indian Standard*METHOD OF SAMPLING FOR  
THE DETERMINATION OF  
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## *Indian Standard*

### METHOD OF SAMPLING FOR THE DETERMINATION OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES

#### PART I AGRICULTURAL AND **FOOD** COMMODITIES

## 0. FOREWORD

**0.1** This Indian Standard ( Part 1) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 26 November 1985, after the draft finalized by the Sampling Methods for Food Products and Agricultural Inputs Sectional Committee had been approved by the Agricultural and Food Products Division Council.

**0.2** For the examination of a lot in order to decide whether it complies with maximum 'limits for pesticide residues, it is necessary to provide a representative sample for analysis. The objective of this sampling procedure is to obtain a final sample representative of the lot in order to determine its average pesticide residue content in agricultural and food commodities.

**0.3** The sites, techniques, frequency of sampling and the size and number of samples must allow the analytical results to be statistically evaluated.

**0.4** Whereas this standard ( Part 1) covers the method of drawing, preparing and storing the samples of agricultural and food commodities for the determination of pesticide residues, the method of sampling in respect of environment ( air, water and soil ) for the same purpose will be covered in Part 2.

**0.5** In the preparation of this standard, assistance has been derived from Codex document 'Recommended Method of Sampling for the Determination of Pesticide Residues', CAC/Vol XIII-First Ed. 3 1 October 1983.

**0.6** In reporting the results of a test or analysis, if the final value, observed or calculated, is to be rounded off, it shall be done in accordance with IS: 2-1960\*.

\*Rules for rounding off numerical values ( *revised*).

## 1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard (Part 1) prescribes the procedures for drawing, preparing and storing the samples for the examination of a lot of agricultural and food commodities with respect to pesticide residues analysis.

## 2. TERMINOLOGY

**2.1 Lot**-An identifiable quantity of goods delivered at one time, having or presumed to have common properties or uniform characteristics such as the same origin, the same variety, the same consignor and the same type of packing. Several lots may make up a consignment.

**2.2 Consignment** — A quantity of material covered by a particular consignment note or shipping document. Lots in the same consignment may be delivered at different times and may have different amounts of pesticide residues.

**2.3 Primary Sample**-A quantity of material taken from a single place in the lot.

**2.4 Bulk Sample** — Combined total of all the primary samples taken from the same lot.

**2.5 Final Sample** — Bulk sample or representative part of the bulk sample to be used for control purposes.

**2.6 Laboratory Sample** — Sample submitted to the laboratory for testing. The final sample may be used as a whole or subdivided into representative portions ( laboratory sample ), if required.

**2.7 Test Sample** -The sample as prepared by the laboratory for testing after suitable reduction of the laboratory sample, if required.

## 3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF SAMPLING

3.0 In drawing, preparing and storing the test samples, the following precautions and directions shall be observed.

3.1 In the course of taking the primary samples and in all subsequent procedures, precautions must be taken to avoid contamination of the samples or any other changes which would adversely affect the amount of residues or the analytical determinations or make a laboratory sample not representative of bulk sample.

**3.1.1 Diseased** or under-sized commodities may also be avoided.

3.2 As many pesticides are photo-degradable, it is advisable to protect samples and any solution or extracts from needless exposure to light.

3.3 In the case of solid/dry products, **plastic/polyethylene/kraft** paper bags shall be used and for liquid/wet products, glass jars or bottles with aluminium foil or metal **teflon-lined** containers shall be used.

**NOTE** — Polyethylene bags must be put in additional heavy paper bags, as polyethylene bags alone may become brittle in contact with dry ice if kept frozen.

3.4 It must be ensured that glass containers used are entirely free from contamination. The operation for cleaning of glass containers generally includes:

- a) Soaking and washing in a high temperature ( 50°C) bath or synthetic detergent in water;
- b) Rinsing with tap water;
- c) Rinsing with distilled water; and
- d) Rinsing with distilled acetone.

**3.4.1** Cleaning of glass containers used to concentrate samples (**evaporative** concentrated tubes) should include a soak for at least 15 min in hot (40 to 50° C ) chromic acid cleaning solution ( observe rigid safety precautions ) after the tap water rinse to remove all traces of organic material. This soak is followed by thorough rinsing with tap and distilled water and then with acetone and hexane. Pipettes are washed in the same way.

3.4.2 As an extra precaution, each piece of glass containers should be rinsed with the solvent to be employed in the analysis immediately before use. As soon as possible after a piece of glass containers has come in contact with a sample containing pesticides, it should be mixed with acetone to remove surface residues.

3.5 Aluminium foil can be cleaned by agitating it in analytical **reagent** grade acetone followed by safe rinsing with pesticide grade ethyl acetate and hexane.

3.6 Samples should be analysed as soon as possible after their **collection**. If storage of sample before analysis is necessary, it should be **under** prescribed conditions which preserve the integrity of the original sample.

3.7 Agricultural or environmental samples that are to be analysed for organophosphates should be placed in tight containers and stored in **deep** freezing as soon as possible after sampling, unless sample preparation is to be conducted within a few hours.

**3.8** If lengthy storage is required prior to analysis, a good alternative to the storage of sample is to extract the sample at once, remove most or all the solvent, and store the extract at a low temperature. Decomposition in samples that must be stored can be evaluated by storing spiked controls along with the samples.

3.9 It may be ensured that a sample after drawing should reach the laboratory for analysis within 24 h and should be stored in a freeze below 0°C.

#### 4. SAMPLING PROCEDURE

**4.1** Each lot ( see 2.1) which is to be examined must be sampled separately.

##### 4.2 Primary Samples

**4.2.1** The primary samples should be taken throughout the lot. Departures from this requirement must be separately recorded.

4.2.2 The primary samples should be of similar size and the combined total of all the primary samples ( bulk sample ) must not be less than that required for the final sample, bearing in mind the possible requirement of further reduction and the provision of adequate laboratory samples.

4.2.3 The minimum number of primary samples to be taken shall be according to Table 1.

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**TABLE 1 SCALE OF SAMPLING**

WEIGHT OF LOT (kg)	MINIMUM NUMBER OF PRIMARY SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN
(1)	(2)
up to 50	3
51 to 500	5
501 to 2000	10
2001 and above	15

**NOTE** --- When the material is supplied in bulk, for bigger size food grains, smaller size food grains and milled cereals and pulses products, the alternative sampling procedures given in the relevant Indian standard may be used provided this departure is recorded and the minimum requirements given in **4.5.1** are met.

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4.2.4 For processed products in cans, bottles, packages or other small containers, especially when the mass of the lot is not known, the minimum number of primary samples to be taken from the lot shall be according to Table 2.

**TABLE 2 MINIMUM NUMBER OF PRIMARY SAMPLES  
FROM A LOT CONTAINING PACKAGES**

NUMBER OF CANS, PACKAGES OR CONTAINERS IN THE LOT	MINIMUM NUMBER OF PRIMARY SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN
(1)	(2)
up to 25	1
26 to 100	5
101 to 250	10
251 and above	15

4.2.5 For homogeneous lots, a sample fully representative of the whole is obtained by withdrawing any single sample.

### 4.3 Preparation of Bulk Sample

4.3.1 The bulk sample shall be made by combining and mixing the primary samples.

### 4.4 Preparation of Final Sample

4.4.1 The bulk sample should, if possible, constitute the final sample.

4.4.2 If the bulk sample is too large, the final sample may be prepared from it by a suitable method of reduction. In the process of reduction, however, individual fruits and vegetables must not be cut or divided.

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## 4.5 Preparation of the Laboratory Sample

4.5.1 The minimum amount of material to be submitted to the laboratory that is the size of the laboratory sample shall be as follows:

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Minimum Quantity Required</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
Small or light products, unit mass up to about 25 g	barries peas	1 kg
Medium sized products, unit mass usually between 25 and 250 g	apples oranges carrots potatoes	1 kg (at least 10 units)
Large sized products, unit mass over 250 g	cabbages melons cucumbers	2 kg (at least 5 units)
Dairy products	milk cheese butter cream	0.5 kg
Poultry products	eggs	0.5 kg (10 units if whole)
Animal tissue	meat, chicken, fish and their products	0.5 kg
Oils and fats	cottonseed oil	0.5 kg
Spices	cumin, coriander	0.25 kg
Cereals and cereal products	wheat, rice	1 kg
Forage	grass, straw	1 kg
Animal feeds	husk, bran, oil cakes	1 kg
Beverage products	coffee, tea, cocoa	0.25 kg

4.5.1.1 A test sample may be obtained by reducing a laboratory sample by a suitable method of reduction. A typical example is given in Fig. 1. Out of the three test samples each of 80 g finally obtained, two may be used for analysis and one may be kept as a referee sample.

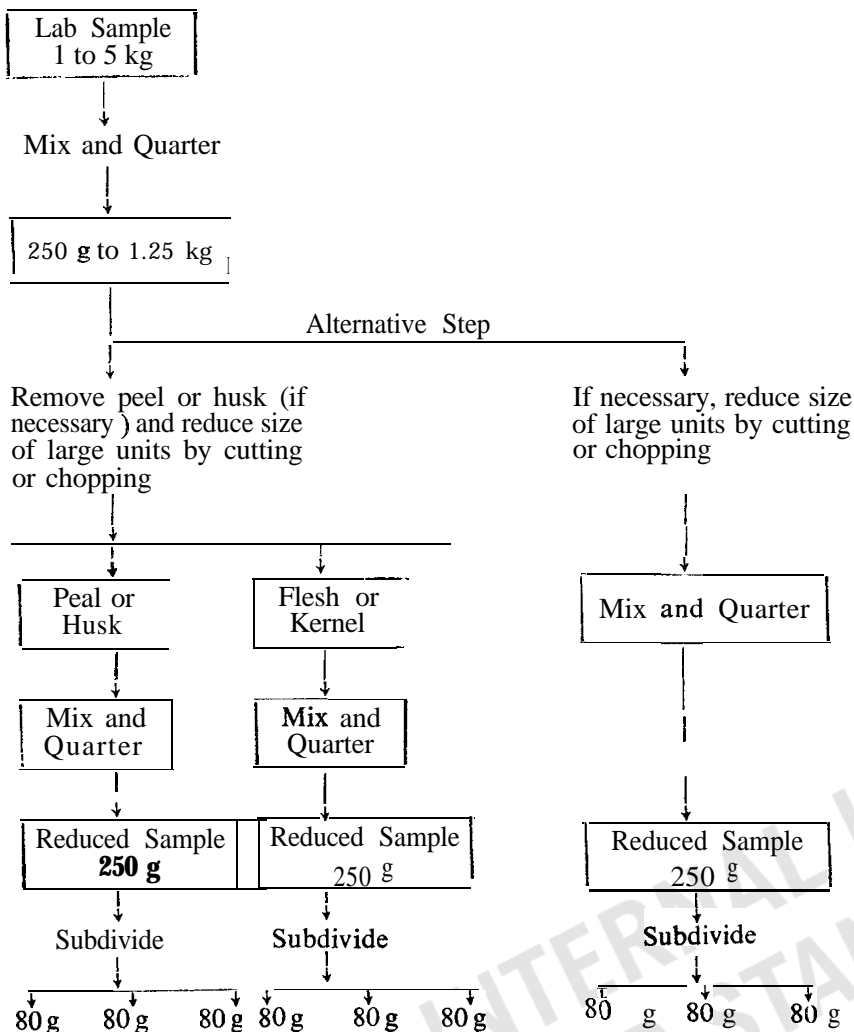


FIG. 1 TYPICAL PROCEDURE FOR REDUCTION OF A LABORATORY SAMPLE

**5. PACKAGING AND TRANSPORTATION OF LABORATORY SAMPLES**

5.1 The laboratory sample must be placed in a clean inert container offering adequate protection from external contamination and protection against damage or deteriorations of the sample in transit. The container must then be sealed in such a manner that unauthorised opening is detectable, and sent to the laboratory as soon as possible, taking necessary precautions against leakage or spoilage, for example frozen foods should be kept frozen and perishable samples should be kept cooled or frozen.

5.2 Each laboratory sample must be correctly identified and should be accompanied by a note giving the nature and origin of the sample and the date and place of sampling together with any additional information likely to be of assistance to the analyst.

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†Sales Office is at Novelty Chambers, Grant Road, MUMBAI 400007 309 65 28

‡Sales Office is at 'F' Block, Unity Building, Narashimaraja Square, BANGALORE 560002 222 39 71

Printed at Printograph, New Delhi (INDIA).

TO

IS:11380(Part 1)-1985 METHOD OF SAMPLING FOR  
THE DETERMINATION OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES

PART 1 AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD COMMODITIES

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'Indian Standard

METHOD OF SAMPLING FOR DETERMINATION  
OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN  
AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD COMMODITIES '

(Page 1 and all other pages) - Delete 'Part 1'  
wherever it occurs.

(AFDC 57)

Printed at Printograph, New Delhi. Ph : 5726847

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