

## IS 6444:2023 Sulphur dusting powders-Specification (Second Revision)

As defined by the National Pesticides Information Centre, fungicides are pesticides that kill or prevent the growth of fungi and their spores. Miticides are also a type of pesticides that are used to control mites or ticks, especially those that have an adverse effect on plants used for food.

Sulphur dusting powder is one such product that is effectively used both as a fungicide and miticide. Beside its role in pest control, it also aids in plant nutrition by replenish sulphur to the soil and helps in regulating soil pH. It is a valuable tool in Integrated Pest Management and sustainable agricultural practices. Sulphur dusting powder is a chemical that comprises 85% sulphur and is widely used for the control of powdery mildew of pumpkins, grapes, and citrus rust mite in citrus, etc.

Consumers would expect the product to be pure, free from extraneous impurities, with desired effectiveness that is ensured by required prescribed level of sulphur content. As the product is available in powdered form, the end users would also expect the product to be able to be sprayed without the risk of clogging nozzles of the applicator. All the desired requirements of the product from the consumer point of view have been underlined in this second revision of the standard.

This standard specifies the requirements for Sulphur dusting powders, including description and requirements prescribed for sulphur content, percent by mass of material passing through 75 micron IS sieve, and bulk density after compacting. Tolerance limits, both positive and negative, from the declared nominal value have been prescribed for sulphur content.

The methods of sampling and tests for sulphur dusting powder, are also addressed in the standard. Additionally, the standard also laids down packing and marking requirements that shall be marked by the manufacturer.