

Characterization of sludges — Determination of Kjeldahl nitrogen

The European Standard EN 13342:2000 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 13.030.20

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 13342:2000.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EH/5, Sludge characterization, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Further information

Users of this standard are informed that the UK submitted some substantial comments at the final voting stage of the draft EN for the following reasons.

1) In annex A, it is essential that the description of the four samples used in the inter-laboratory comparison is given. This can be achieved by the addition of a simple footnote. It is recommended that this topic is discussed at the TC308 meeting in Utrecht. A documented minimum requirement for inter-laboratory comparisons is needed.

2) The following note should be added to the scope: “The validation for this standard has only been carried out using materials as described in annex A. For other sludges, the user should validate the method using recovery and reproducibility tests”.

3) The date that the laboratory inter-comparison was carried out should be also given.

4) The final phrase “and sludge products”, in the first sentence of the scope should be removed as it is inappropriate.

5) In 5.1, suggest replacing the first sentence, “The digestion fails to determine nitrogen in the form”, with “The digestion may fail to fully recover nitrogen in the form of”. Also suggest that a cross-reference to the UK Blue Book method be made. This has a useful introductory historical section (A1) on recoveries of “difficult” nitrogen species using the Kjeldahl method. [Kjeldahl Nitrogen in Waters 1987, HMSO 1988, ISBN 0 11 752129 9]

6) In annex A:

- (i) CV_R , in column 6, should be CV_T in all three language versions:
- (ii) all of the English and German coefficients of variation of both reproducibility (CV_R) and repeatability (CV_T) are wrongly calculated. The values are wrong by up to a factor three, which is to high.

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Health and Environment Sector Committee, was published under the authority of the Standards Committee and comes into effect on 15 October 2000

© BSI 10-2000

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments