

# CIPAC MT STATUS REPORT

30/10/2015

## MT 171 Dustiness

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Allocated to DAPF

CIPAC methods published in: Handbook F

Not published

**CIPAC** 59<sup>th</sup> meeting, June 2015 in Athens

Mr Wiese, on behalf of DAPF (5003) presented the revision of MT 171.1 – dustiness. In this method dustiness is defined as the property of a granular product to release dust into the air when handled under specified conditions. The aim of testing dustiness according to FAO/WHO Manual, chapter 4.5.34, is to restrict the dustiness of granular formulations, which may liberate dust into the air when handled and applied, and hence the risks to users. Therefore granular products must be at least “essentially non dusty”. The method is applicable to GR, WG, EG and SG type products.

The reason for revision (besides editorial) was that major changes have occurred in

- removal of obsolete references  
Note 4 (related to a dust measuring apparatus from Hoechst) is obsolete
- up-date description of equipment  
Note 4 should be replaced by references to modern commercial suppliers
- sampling  
Reference is made to MT166. It is appropriate to describe that a representative sample must be used.
- error correction in result table  
The result table (Category 2) of the original MT 171 method contained errors and was replaced by a new table.
- definition of range for sample weight  
Precise sample weight is impossible to meet for larger granules like GR unless granules are intentionally broken which is not allowed by method and may create false results. Accurate weighing ( $30.0 \pm 0.5\text{g}$ , weighed with an accuracy of 0.1 g) is therefore entered in MT171.

Mr Wiese finalised his presentation with some recommendations:

- to make changes in revised CIPAC MTs more visible to users
- to introduce “Reason for revision”
- to introduce the reference that changes from MT 171 to MT 171.1 do not influence test results.

The following comments were received from the meeting:

- Which of both procedures (gravimetric based or optical based) is preferable? Mr Wiese answered that the gravimetric method should be the method of choice.
- Method revision can be editorial or related to the content of the method, or both. As these are strictly separated items they should be addressed separately. Mr Wiese answered that this also relates to the decision whether to revise or replace MTs, which is a subject of much discussion. Nevertheless it is important to keep track of document changes.

### **Closed meeting:**

The meeting discussed the comments received during the open meeting.

Decision: The proposals to make changes in the method for the determination of the dustiness of granular products MT 171 (CIPAC/5003) were **accepted** with the proposal to include the reason of the revision.