FENITROTHION

ISO common name  Fenitrothion

Chemical name  \(O,O\)-Dimethyl \(O\)-4-nitro-\(m\)-tolyl phosphorothioate (IUPAC)
\(O,O\)-Dimethyl \(O\)-(3-methyl-4-nitrophenyl)-phosphorothioate (CA)

CAS No.  122-14-5

Empirical formula  \(C_9H_{12}NO_5PS\)

\(RMM\)  277.2

\(b.p.\)  109°C at 13.3 Pa, 164°C at 133 Pa isomerizes on distillation

\(v.p.\)  700 mPa \((6.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ Torr})\) at 20°C

\(d_{4}^{20}\)  1.308

\(Reflactive index\ n_{D}^{25}\)  1.5528

Solubility  Practically insoluble in water, soluble in most organic solvents, e.g. acetone, alcohol, chlorinated hydrocarbons

Description  Brownish yellow liquid

Stability  Hydrolyzed by alkali. Do not store at temperatures above 40°C because the material will isomerize
1 Sampling. Take at least 100 g.

2 Identity tests
2.1 HPLC. Use the HPLC method below. The retention time of fenitrothion for the sample solution should not deviate by more than 0.2 min from that of the calibration solution.

2.2 Infrared. Prepare a film between NaCl plates and scan from 4000 to 600 cm\(^{-1}\). The spectrum produced from the sample should not differ significantly from that of the standard.

3 Fenitrothion
OUTLINE OF METHOD Fenitrothion is determined by normal phase high performance liquid chromatography using a CN column, UV detection at 268 nm and external standardisation.

REAGENTS
n-Hexane HPLC grade
1-Butanol

Diluting solvent  n-hexane – 1-butanol, 50 + 50 (v/v)
Mobile phase  n-hexane – 1-butanol, 100 + 1 (v/v)

Fenitrothion working standard  technical product of certified purity. Store refrigerated.

Calibration solution Prepare calibration solutions in duplicate. Weigh (to the nearest 0.1 mg) into a volumetric flask (100 ml) approximately 100 mg (s mg) of fenitrothion working standard. Make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Transfer by pipette 5.0 ml of this solution into a volumetric flask (20 ml) and make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly (Solutions C\(_A\) and C\(_B\)).

APPARATUS
High performance liquid chromatograph equipped with a detector suitable for operation at 268 nm, constant-temperature column compartment and an injector capable of delivering 10 \(\mu\)l.

Column 250 x 4.6 (i.d.) mm, stainless steel, packed with Zorbax CN (5 \(\mu\)m), or equivalent.

Electric integrator or data system

PROCEDURE
(a) Liquid chromatographic conditions (typical):
Column stainless steel, 250 x 4.6 (i.d.) mm, packed with Zorbax CN (5 μm), or equivalent.

Mobile phase n-hexane – 1-butanol, 100 + 1 (v/v)

Temperature 40°C

Flow rate 1.0 ml/min

Detector wavelength 268 nm

Injection volume 10 μl

Retention time fenitrothion: about 10 min

(b) Linearity check. Check the linearity of the detector response by injecting 10 μl of solutions with fenitrothion concentrations 0.5, 1 and 2 times that of the calibration solution before conducting analysis.

(c) System equilibration. Prepare two calibration solutions. Inject 10 μl portions of the first one until the peak areas obtained for two consecutive injections differ by less than 1.0 %. Then inject a 10 μl portion of the second solution. The response factor for this solution should not deviate by more than 1.0 % from that for the first calibration solution, otherwise prepare new calibration solutions.

(d) Preparation of sample solution. Prepare sample solutions in duplicate for each sample. Weigh (to the nearest 0.1 mg) into a volumetric flask (100 ml) sufficient sample to contain about 100 mg (w mg) of fenitrothion. Make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Transfer by pipette 5.0 ml of this solution into a volumetric flask (20 ml) and make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly (Solutions S_A and S_B).

(e) Determination. Inject in duplicate 10 μl portions of each sample solution bracketing them by injections of the calibration solutions as follows; calibration solution C_A, sample solution S_A, sample solution S_A, calibration solution C_B, sample solution S_B, sample solution S_B, calibration solution C_A, and so on. Measure the relevant peak areas.

(f) Calculation. Calculate the mean value of each pair of response factors bracketing the two injections of a sample and use this value for calculating the fenitrothion contents of the bracketed sample injections.

\[
f_i = \frac{s \times P}{H_s}
\]
Fenitrothion content = \( \frac{f \times H_w}{w} \) (g/kg)

where:
- \( f_i \) = individual response factor
- \( f \) = mean response factor
- \( H_s \) = peak area of fenitrothion in the calibration solution
- \( H_w \) = peak area of fenitrothion in the sample solution
- \( s \) = mass of fenitrothion working standard in the calibration solution (mg)
- \( w \) = mass of sample taken (mg)
- \( P \) = purity of fenitrothion working standard (g/kg)

Repeatability \( r \) = 22 g/kg at 940 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility \( R \) = 29 g/kg at 940 g/kg active ingredient content

4 S-METHYL FENITROTHION. As for 35/TC/m3/3 except:
change 'REAGENTS' as follows:
S-Methyl fenitrothion analytical standard of known purity. Store refrigerated.

Calibration solution Prepare calibration solutions in duplicate. Weigh (to the nearest 0.1 mg) into a volumetric flask (100 ml) approximately 100 mg (s mg) of S-methyl fenitrothion analytical standard. Make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Transfer by pipette 5.0 ml of this solution into a volumetric flask (100 ml) and make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Furthermore, transfer by pipette 5.0 ml of this solution into a volumetric flask (200 ml) and make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. (Solutions C_A and C_B).

change 'PROCEDURE' as follows:
(a) Liquid chromatographic conditions (typical):
Retention time S-methyl fenitrothion: about 20 min

(b) Linearity check. Check the linearity of the detector response by injecting 10 \( \mu l \) of solutions with S-methyl fenitrothion concentrations 0.5, 1 and 2 times that of the calibration solution before conducting analysis.

(c) System equilibration. Prepare two calibration solutions. Inject 10 \( \mu l \) portions of the first one until the peak areas obtained for two consecutive injections differ by less than 5.0 %. Then inject a 10 \( \mu l \) portion of the second solution. The response factor for this solution should not deviate by
more than 5.0% from that for the first calibration solution, otherwise prepare new calibration solutions.

(f) Calculation. Calculate the mean value of each pair of response factors bracketing the two injections of a sample and use this value for calculating the S-methyl fenitrothion contents of the bracketed sample injections.

\[
f_i = \frac{s \times P}{H_s} \times \frac{1}{200}
\]

\[S \text{- Methyl fenitrothion content} = \frac{f \times H_w}{w} \text{(g/kg)}\]

where:
- \(f_i\) = individual response factor
- \(f\) = mean response factor
- \(H_s\) = peak area of S-methyl fenitrothion in the calibration solution
- \(H_w\) = peak area of S-methyl fenitrothion in the sample solution
- \(s\) = mass of S-methyl fenitrothion analytical standard in the calibration solution (mg)
- \(w\) = mass of sample taken (mg)
- \(P\) = purity of S-methyl fenitrothion analytical standard (g/kg)

Repeatability \(r\) = 0.15 g/kg at 2.39 g/kg S-methyl fenitrothion content

FENITROTHION WETTABLE POWDER
35/WP/m3/-

1 Sampling. Take at least 100 g.

2 Identity tests
2.1 HPLC. As for 35/TC/m3/2.1
2.2 Infrared. Extract the sample with a suitable solvent, filter and evaporate the solvent with a stream of clean dry air. Proceed as for 35/TC/m3/2.2.

3 FENITROTHION. As for 35/TC/m3/3 except:
add 'APPARATUS' as follows:
Ultrasonic bath
Prepare sample solutions in duplicate for each sample. Weigh (to the nearest 0.1 mg) into a volumetric flasks (100 ml) sufficient sample to contain about 100 mg (w mg) of fenitrothion. Add by measuring cylinder diluting solvent (80 ml) and place the flasks in an ultrasonic bath for about 10 min and allow to cool to ambient temperature. Make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Transfer by pipette 5.0 ml of this solution into a volumetric flask (20 ml) and make up to volume with diluting solvent. Mix thoroughly. Filter the supernatant through a 0.45 µm filter (Solutions S_A and S_B).

Repeatability r = 6 g/kg at 414 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility R = 7 g/kg at 414 g/kg active ingredient content

4 S-METHYL FENITROTHION. As for 35/TC/m3/4 except:

add 'APPARATUS' as follows:
Ultrasonic bath

change 'PROCEDURE (d) Preparation of sample solution.' as for 35/WP/m3/3.

Repeatability r = 0.06 g/kg at 2.84 g/kg S-methyl fenitrothion content

FENITROTHION EMULSIFIABLE CONCENTRATE
35/EC/m3/-

1 Sampling. Take at least 100 g.

2 Identity tests
2.1 HPLC. As for 35/TC/m3/2.1
2.2 Infrared. Evaporate to dryness with a stream of clean dry air. Proceed as for 35/TC/m3/2.2.

3 FENITROTHION. As for 35/TC/m3/3

Repeatability r = 18 g/kg at 476 g/kg active ingredient content
Repeatability r = 22 g/kg at 768 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility R = 18 g/kg at 476 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility R = 29 g/kg at 768 g/kg active ingredient content
4 **S-METHYL FENITROTHION.** As for 35/TC/m3/4

Repeatability \( r \)  = 0.07 g/kg at 3.02 g/kg \( S \)-methyl fenitrothion content
Repeatability \( r \)  = 0.25 g/kg at 12.81 g/kg \( S \)-methyl fenitrothion content

**FENITROTHION ULTRA-LOW VOLUME LIQUID**

35/UL/m/-

1 **Sampling.** Take at least 100 g.

2 **Identity tests**
2.1 **HPLC.** As for 35/TC/m3/2.1
2.2 **Infrared.** Evaporate to dryness with a stream of clean dry air. Proceed as for 35/TC/m3/2.2.

3 **FENITROTHION.** As for 35/TC/m3/3

Repeatability \( r \)  = 29 g/kg at 466 g/kg active ingredient content
Repeatability \( r \)  = 24 g/kg at 789 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility \( R \)  = 27 g/kg at 466 g/kg active ingredient content
Reproducibility \( R \)  = 28 g/kg at 789 g/kg active ingredient content

4 **S-METHYL FENITROTHION.** As for 35/TC/m3/4

Repeatability \( r \)  = 0.04 g/kg at 1.30 g/kg \( S \)-methyl fenitrothion content
Repeatability \( r \)  = 0.11 g/kg at 2.11 g/kg \( S \)-methyl fenitrothion content
Fig. 1   Infrared Spectrum of Fenitrothion

Fig. 2   Example of Chromatogram of Fenitrothion
Fig. 3  Example of Chromatogram of $S$-Methyl Fenitrothion

*: Impurities in Fenitrothion TC