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IRISH STANDARD

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ICS 55.040  
13.030.99

**PACKAGING - PRELIMINARY EVALUATION  
OF THE DISINTEGRATION OF PACKAGING  
MATERIALS UNDER SIMULATED  
COMPOSTING CONDITIONS IN A  
LABORATORY SCALE TEST**

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**EN 14806**

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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ICS 55.040; 13.030.99

English Version

## Packaging - Preliminary evaluation of the disintegration of packaging materials under simulated composting conditions in a laboratory scale test

Emballage - Evaluation préliminaire de la désintégration des matériaux d'emballage dans des conditions simulées de compostage dans le cadre d'un essai à l'échelle du laboratoire

Verpackung - Vorbeurteilung des Auflörens von Verpackungsmaterial unter simulierten Kompostierungsbedingungen im Labormaßstab

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 13 June 2005.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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## Contents

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| Foreword .....  | 3    |
| Introduction.....   | 4    |
| 1 Scope .....   | 5    |
| 2 Normative references .....  | 5    |
| 3 Terms and definitions .....   | 5    |
| 4 Principle.....  | 6    |
| 5 Synthetic solid waste.....  | 6    |
| 6 Composting reactor .....  | 7    |
| 7 Procedure .....   | 7    |
| 8 Monitoring the composting process .....                                 | 9    |
| 9 Chemical analysis .....   | 10   |
| 10 Termination of the test .....  | 10   |
| 11 Calculation of degree of disintegration.....                           | 11   |
| 12 Validity of the test .....   | 11   |
| 13 Test report .....  | 12   |
| Annex A (informative) Synthetic Waste Composition.....                    | 13   |
| Annex B (informative) Test Set-up .....                                   | 14   |
| Annex C (informative) Final Compost Characterisation after Sieving.....   | 15   |
| Annex D (informative) Water Addition and Turning of Composting Mass ..... | 16   |
| Annex E (informative) Degree of Disintegration.....                       | 17   |
| Bibliography.....   | 18   |

## **Foreword**

This European Standard (EN 14806:2005) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 261 “Packaging”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by January 2006, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2006.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## **EN 14806:2005 (E)**

### **Introduction**

The method does not require special bioreactors and it is well suited to be run at laboratory scale in any general purpose laboratory. It requires the use of a standard, homogeneous synthetic waste. The synthetic waste components are dry, clean, safe products which can be stored in the laboratory without any problem neither of smell nor of health. The synthetic waste is of constant composition and devoid of any undesired packaging material, which could be erroneously identified as test material at the end of testing, altering the final evaluation. The bioreactors are small, the amount of synthetic waste to be composted is also very small (about 3 L) and, likewise, the amount of test material's specimens is very limited, with an overall simplification of the test procedures. The test method is not aimed at determining the biodegradability of packaging materials under composting conditions and does not cover environmental safety and ecotoxicity issues. Further testing is necessary for claiming compostability.

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