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Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN ISO 11269-1:2012

# Soil quality - Determination of the effects of pollutants on soil flora - Part 1: Method for the measurement of inhibition of root growth (ISO 11269-1:2012)

## I.S. EN ISO 11269-1:2012

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English Version

**Soil quality - Determination of the effects of pollutants on soil  
flora - Part 1: Method for the measurement of inhibition of root  
growth (ISO 11269-1:2012)**

Qualité du sol - Détermination des effets des polluants sur  
la flore du sol - Partie 1: Méthode de mesurage de  
l'inhibition de la croissance des racines (ISO 11269-1:2012)

Bodenbeschaffenheit - Bestimmung der Wirkungen von  
Schadstoffen auf die Bodenflora - Teil 1: Verfahren zur  
Messung der Wurzelwachstumshemmung (ISO 11269-  
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## **Foreword**

The text of ISO 11269-1:2012 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 190 “Soil quality” of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 11269-1:2012 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 345 “Characterization of soils” the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2013.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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### **Endorsement notice**

The text of ISO 11269-1:2012 has been approved by CEN as a EN ISO 11269-1:2012 without any modification.

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**Soil quality — Determination of the  
effects of pollutants on soil flora —**

**Part 1:**  
**Method for the measurement of inhibition  
of root growth**

*Qualité du sol — Détermination des effets des polluants sur la flore du  
sol —*

*Partie 1: Méthode de mesurage de l'inhibition de la croissance des racines*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 11269-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 190, *Soil quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Biological methods*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11269-1:1993), which has been technically revised.

ISO 11269 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Soil quality — Determination of the effects of pollutants on soil flora*:

- *Part 1: Method for the measurement of inhibition of root growth*
- *Part 2: Effects of contaminated soil on the emergence and early growth of higher plants*

## **Introduction**

Chemical analysis of soil samples or waste materials to be disposed on soil, together with ecotoxicological testing, provides substantial evidence of the suitability of the soil for arable production, or gives information on the potential environmental risk resulting from the disposal of wastes such as sewage sludge on farmland. There is also a need to assess the quality of the soil after reclamation of industrial sites and colliery tips or when capping landfill sites. As the ability of the soil to grow crops is the main criterion, a rapid-growth test has been developed, based on seedling growth in controlled environmental conditions.

Two major prerequisites of a phytotoxicity test are that it provides consistently reliable results and that it can be used at any time of the year. It is therefore essential that seeds be grown in a controlled environment to ensure optimal growing conditions which can be maintained for any number of tests, producing reproducible results over a long period of time.

The test method described in this part of ISO 11269 can be used to compare soils, to monitor changes in their activity or to determine the effect of added chemicals or materials (compost, sludge, waste).

**I.S. EN ISO 11269-1:2012**

# Soil quality — Determination of the effects of pollutants on soil flora —

## Part 1: Method for the measurement of inhibition of root growth

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 11269 describes a method for the determination of the effects of contaminated soils or contaminated samples on the root elongation of terrestrial plants.

This method is applicable to soils, soil materials, compost, sludge, waste or chemical testing. It is applicable to the comparison of soils of known and unknown quality and to the measurement of effects of materials (compost, sludge, waste) or chemicals deliberately added to the soil.

The method is not intended to be used as a measure of the ability of the soil to support sustained plant growth.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 10381-6, *Soil quality — Sampling — Part 6: Guidance on the collection, handling and storage of soil under aerobic conditions for the assessment of microbiological processes, biomass and diversity in the laboratory*

ISO 10390, *Soil quality — Determination of pH*

ISO 10694, *Soil quality — Determination of organic and total carbon after dry combustion (elementary analysis)*

ISO 10930, *Soil quality — Measurement of the stability of soil aggregates subjected to the action of water*

ISO 11260, *Soil Quality — Determination of effective cation exchange capacity and base saturation level using barium chloride solution*

ISO 11268-1, *Soil quality — Effects of pollutants on earthworms — Part 1: Determination of acute toxicity to *Eisenia fetida*/*Eisenia andrei**

ISO 11268-2, *Soil quality — Effects of pollutants on earthworms — Part 2: Determination of effects on reproduction to *Eisenia fetida*/*Eisenia andrei**

ISO 11277, *Soil quality — Determination of particle size distribution in mineral soil material — Method by sieving and sedimentation*

ISO 11465, *Soil quality — Determination of dry matter and water content on a mass basis — Gravimetric method*

ISO/TS 20281, *Water quality — Guidance on statistical interpretation of ecotoxicity data*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### 3.1

##### **contaminant**

substance or agent present in the soil as a result of human activity

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