



DPC: 25/30478171 DC

**BSI Group Headquarters**

389 Chiswick High Road London W4 4AL

Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 9000

Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7400

www.bsigroup.com

Date: 16 October 2025

Origin: European

**Latest date for receipt of comments: 09 December 2025**

Project No. 2023/01761

Responsible committee: AW/20 Topsoil, other growing media and turf

Interested committees:

Title: Draft BS EN 18251 Soil improvers and growing media - Determination of phosphonate content.

Please notify the secretary if you are aware of any keywords that might assist in classifying or identifying the standard or if the content of this standard

- i) has any issues related to 3rd party IPR, patent or copyright
- ii) affects other national standard(s)
- iii) requires additional national guidance or information

**WARNING: THIS IS A DRAFT AND MUST NOT BE REGARDED OR USED AS A BRITISH STANDARD. THIS DRAFT IS NOT CURRENT BEYOND 09 December 2025**

This draft is issued to allow comments from interested parties; all comments will be given consideration prior to publication. No acknowledgement will normally be sent. **See overleaf for information on the submission of comments.**

No copying is allowed, in any form, without prior written permission from BSI except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act 1988 or for circulation within a nominating organization for briefing purposes. Electronic circulation is limited to dissemination by e-mail within such an organization by committee members.

Further copies of this draft may be purchased from BSI Shop <http://shop.bsigroup.com> or from BSI Customer Services, Tel: +44(0) 20 8996 9001 or email [cservices@bsigroup.com](mailto:cservices@bsigroup.com). British, International and foreign standards are also available from BSI Customer Services.

Information on the co-operating organizations represented on the committees referenced above may be obtained from <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/>.

Responsible Committee Secretary: Ms Lachean Humphreys (BSI)

Direct tel:

E-mail: [lachean.humphreys@bsigroup.com](mailto:lachean.humphreys@bsigroup.com)

Full document details: 25/30478171 DC

## Introduction

This draft standard is based on national and international discussions. Your comments on this draft are invited and will assist in the preparation of the consequent standard.

For international standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee before sending the consensus UK vote and comments to the international committee, which will then decide appropriate action. If the international standard is approved, it is usual for the text to be published as a British Standard.

For national standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee and the resulting standards published as a British Standard.

## UK Vote

Please indicate whether you consider the UK should submit a negative (with supporting technical reasons) or positive vote on this draft. Please indicate if you are aware of any reason why this draft standard should not be published as a British Standard.

## Submission of Comments

- **Annotated drafts are not acceptable and will be rejected.**
- All comments should be submitted online at <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/>. You will need to register in order to comment.

## Template for comments and secretariat observations

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Date: xx/xx/20xx | Document: ISO/DIS xxxx |
|------------------|------------------------|

| 1  | 2                                          | (3)                          | 4               | 5                                                                                                                                  | (6)                                                                      | 7                                                  |
|----|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| MB | Clause No./ Subclause No./Annex (e.g. 3.1) | Paragraph/ Figure/Table/Note | Type of comment | Comment (justification for change) by the MB                                                                                       | Proposed change by the MB                                                | Secretariat observations on each comment submitted |
|    | 3.1                                        | Definition 1                 | ed              | Definition is ambiguous and needs clarifying.                                                                                      | Amend to read '...so that the mains connector to which no connection...' |                                                    |
|    | 6.4                                        | Paragraph 2                  | te              | The use of the UV photometer as an alternative cannot be supported as serious problems have been encountered in its use in the UK. | Delete reference to UV photometer.                                       |                                                    |

English Version

## Soil improvers and growing media - Determination of phosphonate content

Amendements du sol et supports de culture -  
Détermination de la teneur en phosphonates

Bodenverbesserungsmittel und Kultursubstrate -  
Bestimmung des Phosphonatgehalts

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 223.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, 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.

This draft European Standard was established by CEN 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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.

Recipients of this draft are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation.

**Warning :** This document is not a European Standard. It is distributed for review and comments. It is subject to change without notice and shall not be referred to as a European Standard.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

| <b>Contents</b>                                                              | <b>Page</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>European foreword .....</b>                                               | <b>3</b>    |
| <b>Introduction .....</b>                                                    | <b>4</b>    |
| <b>1 Scope.....</b>                                                          | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>2 Normative references.....</b>                                           | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>3 Terms and definitions.....</b>                                          | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>4 Principle .....</b>                                                     | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>5 Reagents.....</b>                                                       | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>6 Apparatus .....</b>                                                     | <b>6</b>    |
| <b>7 Sampling.....</b>                                                       | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8 Procedure .....</b>                                                     | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8.1 Safety .....</b>                                                      | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8.2 Sample preparation .....</b>                                          | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8.3 Water extraction .....</b>                                            | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8.4 Preparation of the calibration solutions .....</b>                    | <b>7</b>    |
| <b>8.5 Measurement.....</b>                                                  | <b>8</b>    |
| <b>8.5.1 Instrument conditions .....</b>                                     | <b>8</b>    |
| <b>8.5.2 IC-CD measurement .....</b>                                         | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>9 Calculation and expression of the results .....</b>                     | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>9.1 Integration of peaks.....</b>                                         | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>9.2 Concentration of phosphonates in test solutions.....</b>              | <b>9</b>    |
| <b>10 Test report.....</b>                                                   | <b>10</b>   |
| <b>11 Validation of the method.....</b>                                      | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>11.1 Validation in accordance with ISO 5725-2.....</b>                    | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>11.2 Performance characteristics.....</b>                                 | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>Annex A (informative) Performance characteristics of the method .....</b> | <b>12</b>   |
| <b>Bibliography .....</b>                                                    | <b>14</b>   |

## European foreword

This document (prEN 18251:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 223 “Soil improvers and growing media”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN, in collaboration with CEN/TC 260 “Fertilizers and liming materials” and CEN/TC 455 “Plant Biostimulants”.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.