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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.

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Template for comments and secretariat observations

Date: xx/xx/20xx	Document: ISO/DIS xxxx
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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.	



DRAFT International Standard

ISO/DIS 22786

Textiles — Animal welfare in the supply chain — General requirements for the production, preparation and traceability of cashmere fibre, including ethical claims and supporting information

Textiles — Bien-être animal dans la filière — Exigences générales pour la production, la préparation et la traçabilité de la fibre de cachemire, y compris les déclarations éthiques et les informations justificatives

ICS: 65.020.30; 59.060.10; 03.100.10

ISO/TC 38

Secretariat: JISC

Voting begins on:
2025-02-10

Voting terminates on:
2025-05-05

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents shall be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 38, *Textiles*.

Any feedback or questions on this document shall be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The World Organization for Animal Health, Terrestrial Animal Health Code (OIE TAHC) defines animal welfare as how an animal copes with the conditions in which it lives and dies. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress. Good animal welfare requires effective health services, adequate housing management, nutrition suited to the age and comfore and normal behaviour, humane handling and slaughter/killing. Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment”.

In terms of longitude and latitude, cashmere goats are mainly distributed from 35° N to 55° N, and from 5° E to 120° E. Differences in longitude and latitude have an impact on the cashmere yield and quality properties (fineness, length, wrinkles) of different breeds: the annual cashmere yield varies from 50 g to more than 500 g per goat.

The main cashmere producing countries are China, Mongolia, Iran, and Afghanistan (representing more than 90 % of world production). Cashmere is a rare resource in the world and also one of the most expensive animal fibres in textile industry. Cashmere is renowned for its fineness and lightness, and warmth retention.

There are two types of cashmere breeding the world, in house breeding and nomadic breeding where widespread traditional nomadic herding practices persist, passing centuries-old traditions from generation to generation.

Cashmere fibre harvesting methods also differ. In nomadic breeding, cashmere is harvested through manual combing during natural shedding process in spring. However, cashmere is also harvested through shearing using manual and electronic devices. As a result of shearing, the mean fibre diameter of cashmere fibre is increasing, due also to disordered hybridization, which damages local cashmere goat breeds.

Sustainable development of cashmere production increasingly concern customers for its significant impact on land management, animal welfare and preservation of one of the most sensitive dry and semi dryland ecosystem and its biodiversity. Despite this, there are no international standards for sustainable production of cashmere in the world.

This standard aims to promote animal welfare and responsible management of rangelands and their biodiversity thereby promoting sustainable development throughout cashmere producing regions in the world.

Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter/killing. Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment”.

A number of relevant factors are addressed in this standard to preserve the germplasm resources of cashmere goats, ensure animal welfare, preserve the quality of cashmere fibre, maintain biodiversity, and safeguard the environment, thereby promoting the sustainable development of the cashmere industry throughout the world.

Textiles — Animal welfare in the supply chain — General requirements for the production, preparation and traceability of cashmere fibre, including ethical claims and supporting information

1 Scope

This document specifies the management and control of cashmere goat farming and herding in the supply chain, including proper use of rangelands and pastures, housing and/or nomadic production system, reproduction, feeding, breeding and health, fibre harvesting and collection, labelling and traceability of herds and fibre.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 26000:2010, *Guidance on social responsibility*

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 animal welfare

well-being of animals in the ethical conditions in which they are farmed and herd,

[SOURCE: ISO 4465:2022, 3.1]

3.2 cashmere goat

species bred for cashmere fibre,

Note 1 to entry: Cashmere goats have double layer coats of fibres.

3.3 shelter

man-made living construction to protect *cashmere goats* (3.2) from adverse environmental and climate conditions

3.4 farm

area within a cashmere goat fence or courtyard wall (exercise area, feeding area), or the outside of the housing area

3.5

ranch

farm consisting of a large tract of land along with facilities needed to raise livestock

3.6

housing production system

farming method carried out in permanent locations with dedicated facilities from which animals are let out for grazing

3.7

nomadic production system

form of cashmere goat herding that allows goats graze freely in open rangelands promoting natural breeding and regeneration of the rangeland plants

3.8

stud goat

buck (male) or doe (female) reserved for breeding purposes

3.9

kid goat

kid from born till the end of weaning period

3.10

unmated goat

goat after weaning till first mate

3.11

nutritional demand

amount of nutrients required by animals to maintain normal physiological activities, physical health, and achieve specific production performance

3.12

shearing

process for obtaining cashmere with manual or electric devices. during the cashmere shedding period in spring

3.13

combing

process for harvesting cashmere with manual comb to extract already loose underwool during natural shedding season in spring

3.14

nomadic herder

person(s) tending cashmere goats using their traditional herding skills and knowledge and free-range management and grazing practices

3.15

seasonal camp

location selected by nomadic herders for seasonal grazing of livestock based on historical use, territorial boundaries, forage resources, and animal safety

3.16

seasonal grazing

nomadic practice of occupying different rangelands according to the time of year based on the suitability of vegetation, water resources, and protective features for animals across summer, fall, winter, and spring climatic conditions

3.17

rangeland

uncultivated lands on which vegetation is predominantly native grasses, forbs and shrubs

3.18**reserve rangeland**

traditional nomadic mobility strategy developed by nomadic herders to cope with the highly variable and seasonally changing environment

3.19**indigenous goat breeds**

species that are uniquely adapted to the environmental, climatic, vegetation, and soil conditions of a specific geographical area

4 Requirements**4.1 General**

For all aspects of social and environmental responsibility not specifically addressed in this document, ISO 26000 shall be referred to.

This document defines requirements for the management of cashmere goats in accordance with animal welfare principles expressed in terms of fundamental principles based on the “Five Freedoms” as defined by the Farm Animal Welfare Council ^[1] according to [Table 1](#).

Table 1 — Five (5) animal freedoms

The 5 freedoms	Areas of intervention
Freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition	Feeding and watering
Freedom from physical and thermal discomfort	Animal housing conditions and farming practices
Freedom from injury and disease	Health management
Freedom to express normal species-specific behavioural patterns	Animal housing conditions and farming practices
Freedom from fear and stress	Animal housing conditions and farming practices Fibre management

5 Housing production system ([3.6](#))**5.1 General requirements**

5.1.1 The construction of house facility shall follow the basic principles of economy, practicality, firmness, environmental protection, summer protection, cold prevention, and ventilation.

5.1.2 The site selection shall comply with the relevant requirements of local animal husbandry laws and regulations; the planning and design shall comply with the relevant standards.

5.1.3 The layout of the house shall meet the biosafety requirements, with clear boundaries between functional areas such as living quarters, production auxiliary areas, breeding areas, isolation areas, and manure treatment sites, and each functional area shall be isolated from each other.

5.1.4 The construction materials of the house shall be economically practical, while taking into account the environmental protection requirements. Generally, common civil engineering materials can be used as raw materials.