

Plastics — Mulching thermoplastic films for use in agriculture and horticulture

The European Standard EN 13655:2002 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 83.140.10

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 13655:2002.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PRI/75, Plastic films and sheets, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international/European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

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This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Materials and Chemicals Sector Policy and Strategy Committee, was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 October 2002

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Kunststoffe - Thermoplastische Mulchfolien für den Einsatz in der Landwirtschaft und im Gartenbau

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FOREWORD

This document (EN 13655:2002) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN /TC 249, "Plastics" the secretariat of which is held by IBN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2003, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2003.

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

1 Scope

This standard is applicable to transparent films, transparent clear and diffusing films (thermic) and black or black/white films based on polyethylene and its copolymers, which are designed to be used for mulching the vegetable, fruit and flower crops.

This standard is intended to establish the basic requirements for the optical and mechanical characteristics of various types of film.

From a detailed consideration of the different mulching plastics films used in agriculture and horticulture in the European market, different types of film are considered:

- transparent films (normal)
- transparent clear and diffusing films (thermic)
- black and black/white films

The range of thicknesses considered is from 10 µm up to 250 µm.

2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated references, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriated places in the text and publications are listed hereafter. For dated references subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

EN 2155-5, Aerospace series - Test methods for transparent materials for aircraft glazing – Part. 5 : Determination of visible light transmission

EN ISO 527-1, Plastics - Determination of tensile properties - Part 1: General principles (ISO 527-1:1993 including corr. 1:1994)

EN ISO 527-3, Plastics - Determination of tensile properties - Part 3: Test conditions for films and sheets (ISO 527-3:1995)

EN ISO 4892-2, Plastics - Method of exposure to laboratory light sources - Part 2: Xenon arc sources

ISO 4591, Plastics - Film and sheeting - Determination of average thickness of a sample and average thickness and yield of a roll by gravimetric techniques (gravimetric thickness)

ISO 4592, Plastics - Film and sheeting - Determination of length and width

ISO 4593, Plastics - Film and sheeting - Determination of thickness by mechanical scanning

ISO 7765-1, Plastics film and sheeting - Determination of impact resistance by the free falling dart method - Part 1: Staircase method

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply:

3.1 width

total width of the film when laid flat, given in millimetres.