



BSI Standards Publication

Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the aerobic biological activity

Part 2: Self heating test for compost

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 16087-2:2011.

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 16087-2 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval as a European Standard.

The UK committee voted against the publication of this standard because there is no control to measure the differential compared with the ambient temperature. The committee also considered that both of the samples of composted material used in the inter-laboratory evaluation were so stable that neither generated enough heat to raise the temperature sufficiently above the ambient temperature under which the test was conducted. The measurements were conducted at 22 ± 2 °C and the mean maximum temperatures of the two samples were 22.26 °C and 25.30 °C respectively. The purpose of the self-heating test is to assess the degree of stability of the composted material but because stable material was used for the validation there is no information about the precision of this method. Stability is a very important parameter when selecting composted material to use as a growing medium constituent. Until the method has been validated with immature composts, the precision of the method is undefined.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee AW/20, Top soil and other growing media.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

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English Version

**Soil improvers and growing media - Determination of the aerobic
biological activity - Part 2: Self heating test for compost**

Amendements du sol et supports de culture -
Détermination de l'activité biologique aérobie - Partie 2:
Test d'auto-échauffement pour compost

Bodenverbesserungsmittel und Kultursubstrate -
Bestimmung der aeroben biologischen Aktivität - Teil 2:
Selbsterhitzungstest für Kompost

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 17 September 2011.

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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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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