



BSI Standards Publication

Feather and down — Terms and definitions

National foreword

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English Version

Feather and down - Terms and definitions

Plumes et duvets - Termes et définitions

Federn und Daunen - Begriffe

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European foreword

This document (EN 1885:2018+A1:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 443 “Feather and down”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2025.

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1 Scope

This document defines the principal terms used in the field of feather and down.

2 Normative References

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

3.1 Concerning the structure

3.1.1

plumage

all elements (quill feathers, feathers, down, plumule) of the covering of different kinds of waterfowl and landfowl

3.1.2

quill feather

stiff, coarse, wing and tail plumage. It has a longer and stiffer vane (3.1.12) than a feather (3.1.3.1)

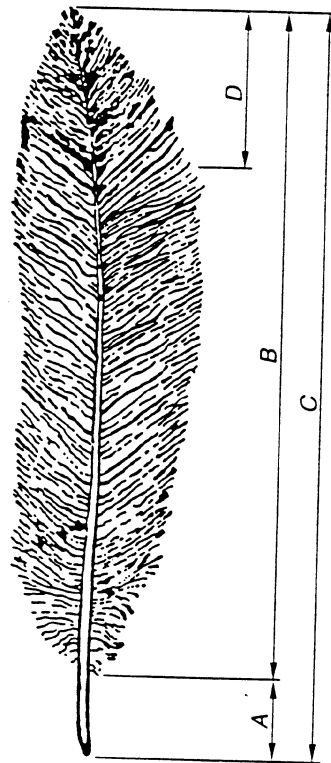
3.1.3

Feather

3.1.3.1

feather (general)

plumage (3.1.1) without quill feathers (3.1.2)

**Key**

A quill point (3.1.10)

C quill (3.1.8)

B quill shaft (3.1.9)

D upper quill (see damaged feather 3.3.7)

Figure 1 — Feather**3.1.3.2****feather (specific)**

horny integument of fowls, with shorter and softer vane (3.1.12) than quill feather (3.1.2) and, unlike plumules (3.1.17), a well-developed quill (3.1.8)

3.1.4**neck feather**

smallest feathers from the neck and head area

**Figure 2 — Neck feathers**

3.1.5

nestling feather

pin feather

feather (3.1.3.1) not fully developed, having no distinguishable quill (3.1.8) but with relatively short coarse barbs (3.1.20)

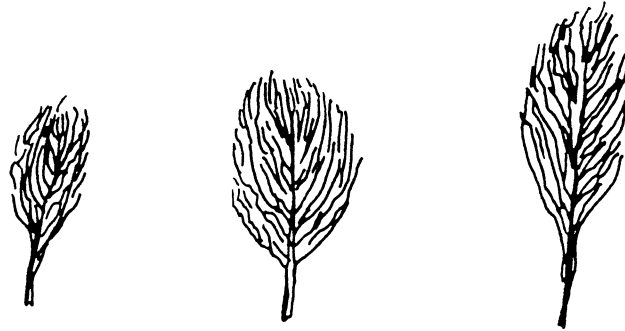


Figure 3 — Nestling feather

3.1.6

filoplumes

feathers with a bare quill without vane but with a brushed tip

3.1.7

flat feather

feather (3.1.3.1) with straight vane (3.1.12)

3.1.8

quill

axial part of quill feather (3.1.2) and feathers (3.1.3.1). It is formed by the quill point (3.1.10) and the quill shaft (3.1.9)

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1.

3.1.9

quill shaft

part of the quill (3.1.8) which carries the vane (3.1.12)

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1 and Figure 2.

3.1.10

quill point

part of the quill (3.1.8) inserted in the skin and partially protruding from it

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 1 and Figure 2.

3.1.11

after shaft

feather (3.1.3.1) that branches off from the same quill point (3.1.10) of a normal feather and that is smaller than this one; it is typical for chickens and turkeys

Note 1 to entry: See Figure 13.