

ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

ISO RECOMMENDATION R 633

CORK
GLOSSARY

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BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 633, *Cork – Glossary*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 87, *Cork*, the Secretariat of which is held by Repartição de Normalização (IGPAI).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1958 and led, in 1963, to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

In June 1964, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No.733) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

Argentina	France	Netherlands
Australia	Germany	Poland
Brazil	Israel	Portugal
Chile	Italy	United Kingdom
Colombia	Japan	Yugoslavia
Czechoslovakia	Morocco	

One Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft:

Spain.

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in November 1967, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

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CORK

GLOSSARY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this ISO Recommendation is to define cork and to determine and define the terms to be used in describing the various states in which cork may be found and the principal products manufactured therefrom.

1. CORK

The suberous parenchyma developed by the subero-phellodermic meristem of the cork tree (*Quercus Suber* L.) whose trunks and branches it envelops.

Cork is made up of dead cells, most of them of a prismatic-hexagonal form and radially arranged, having no meatus in between them and filled with air. The dividing wall between two adjoining cells is composed of five layers; two of a cellulosic nature, lining the cellular cavities, two thicker suberized layers enclosing the former ones and an intermediate lignified layer.

2. RAW CORK

Cork having undergone no treatment whatsoever after stripping.

2.1 Virgin cork. Cork constituting the original cover of the trunk and branches.

2.1.1 Summer virgin. Virgin cork obtained from growing trees being stripped for the first time.

2.1.2 Summer virgin (augment). Virgin cork cut from growing trees above the level of a previous stripping.

2.1.3 Ordinary virgin. Virgin cork stripped from felled trees.

2.1.4 Winter virgin (hatchet). Virgin cork, generally from pruned branches, obtained by stripping the bark after cutting it with an axe along the axis of the branches, along with fragments of inner bark and/or even lignified tissue.

2.1.5 Winter virgin (adze). Virgin cork, generally from pruned branches, adze-cut transversely to the axis of the branch and free from inner bark and lignified tissue.

2.1.6 Virgin "flambé". Virgin cork from trees scorched by fire.