FAO SPECIFICATIONS
FAO PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome, 1977
DISCLAIMER

FAO specifications are developed with the basic objective of promoting, as far as practicable, the manufacture, distribution and use of pesticides that meet basic quality requirements.

Compliance with the specifications does not constitute an endorsement or warranty of the fitness of a particular pesticide for a particular purpose, including its suitability for the control of any given pest, or its suitability for use in a particular area. Owing to the complexity of the problems involved, the suitability of pesticides for a particular purpose and the content of the labelling instructions must be decided at the national or provincial level.

Furthermore, pesticides which are manufactured to comply with these specifications are not exempted from any safety regulation or other legal or administrative provision applicable to their manufacture, sale, transportation, storage, handling, preparation and/or use.

FAO disclaims any and all liability for any injury, death, loss, damage or other prejudice of any kind that may arise as a result of, or in connection with, the manufacture, sale, transportation, storage, handling, preparation and/or use of pesticides which are found, or are claimed, to have been manufactured to comply with these specifications.

Additionally, FAO wishes to alert users to the fact that improper storage, handling, preparation and/or use of pesticides can result in either a lowering or complete loss of safety and/or efficacy.

FAO is not responsible, and does not accept any liability, for the testing of pesticides for compliance with the specifications, nor for any methods recommended and/or used for testing compliance. As a result, FAO does not in any way warrant or represent that any pesticide claimed to comply with a FAO specification actually does so.

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1 This disclaimer applies to all specifications published by FAO.
INTRODUCTION TO FAO SPECIFICATIONS
DEVELOPED UNDER THE OLD PROCEDURE


This manual contained detailed definitions and other essential background information on basic procedures and technical principles adopted by the group on Pesticide Specifications of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Specifications, Registration Requirements, Application Standards and Prior Informed Consent, such as:

1. Categories of Specifications (Section 3.1 of the Manual)

   **FAO Tentative Specifications** (Code ‘S/T’, formerly ‘TS’) are those which have been recommended by FAO as preliminary specifications and which are based on minimum requirements. The methods of analysis cited are normally supplied by the manufacturer or may already have been published or be the subject of collaborative work.

   **FAO Provisional Specifications** [Code ‘S/P’, formerly (‘S’)] are those for which more evidence of the necessary parameters is available and where some collaborative study of the methods of analysis has been carried out.

   **FAO (full) Specifications** (Code ‘S/F’, formerly ‘S’). Specifications that have all necessary requirements together with CIPAC (full) methods, or other collaboratively studied (proven) methods.²,³

   Wherever possible, standards for apparatus and common names for pesticides are those approved by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

2. Expression of active ingredient content (Section 4.2.5 of the Manual)

   For solids, liquid technical materials, volatile liquids (of maximum boiling point 50°C) and viscous liquids (with minimum kinematic viscosity of 1 x 10³ m²/s at 20°C) the FAO Specification shall be based on expression of the content as g/kg;
- for all other liquids the active ingredient content of the product shall be declared in terms of g/kg or g/l at 20°C. If the customer requires both g/kg and g/l at 20°C, then in case of dispute the analytical results shall be calculated as g/kg.

3. Tolerance on content (Section 4.2.7 of the Manual)

A declared content of active ingredient must be included in all specifications, and one of the problems immediately arising is the level of tolerance acceptable about the nominal figure. The tolerance is influenced by (a) the reproducibility of the method of analysis, (b) the sampling error and (c) the manufacturing variance.

Allowable variations in analytical results (i.e. tolerances in content of active ingredient) with respect to specific pesticide consignments are intended to cover reasonable variations in the contents of active ingredients. For examples of such tolerances, see the table in Section 4.2.7 of the Manual.

4. Containers/packaging

FAO guidelines are in preparation.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

**Technical materials, dustable powders and granules**

Containers shall be suitable, clean, dry and as specified, and shall not adversely affect, or be affected by, the contents, but shall adequately protect them against external conditions.

**Wettable powders**

The product shall be packed in suitable, clean, dry containers as specified in the order. The container shall provide all necessary protection against compaction, atmospheric moisture, loss by vaporization and/or contamination to ensure that the product suffers no deterioration under normal transit and storage conditions.

The product shall be protected by an adequate moisture barrier. This may be a suitable bag of polyethylene or alternative means of giving equal or better protection.

**Solutions and emulsifiable concentrates**

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces shall be treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Additional information should be given in all specifications where particular pesticides present problems in packaging.
5. Biological information

Phytotoxicity

No test can be specified to cover the possible phytotoxicity of a formulation to all crops. When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

Wetting of crops

The dilute spray should satisfactorily wet the leaves of the specified crops when used in accordance with the instructions. Test method MT 53.2, CIPAC F, p.162, may be useful.

1 Should national pesticide specifications developed from these approved FAO specifications deviate from them, the National Authority responsible for making such changes is requested to inform the FAO Plant Protection Service of the nature of, and the reasons for, the modifications.


3 Information on standard waters for laboratory evaluation of pesticidal formulations will be found in CIPAC Monograph 1, Standard Waters and an FAO Survey on Naturally Occurring Waters (1972), Black Bear Press Limited, King's Hedges Road, Cambridge CB4 2PQ, England.
SUBMISSION OF DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS TO FAO

Any organization, commercial firm or interested individual is encouraged to submit relevant specifications, or proposals for revision of existing specifications, for pesticide products for consideration and possible adoption by FAO. Correspondence should be addressed to the Pesticide Management Group, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy.


Specifications which are considered suitable for further processing are assigned priorities and circulated to appropriate organizations and specialists to comment. Comments, together with other relevant information, are then reviewed in detail by the Group on Specifications of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Specifications, Registration Requirements, Application Standards and Prior Informed Consent. The drafts are converted into FAO Provisional Specifications, or full FAO Specifications.
PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS
SUITABLE FOR USE ON LEAFLESS WOODY PLANTS
(MISCIBLE TYPE)

FAO Specification Code 29/5/(S1)/3

.1 DESCRIPTION

The specification refers only to single phase products, compounded from petroleum oils and emulsifying agents, but excluding products containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Natural Oil (See CIPAC I, p. 583, section 1.2, method 29/5/(M)/1.2)
Minimum 75% w/w

.2.2 Phenols (Ibid., p. 586, section 1.3, method 29/5/(M)/1.3)
Maximum: 6% w/w (see note 2)

.2.3 Specific Gravity of Neutral Oil at 15.5/15.5ºC (Ibid., p. 589, section 1.6, method 29/5/(M)/1.5).
Minimum: 0.86.
Maximum: 0.93.

.2.4 Distillation Temperature of Neutral Oil (Ibid., p. 970, MT/56).
Maximum: 5.0% by volume distilling at an oil temperature of 350ºC.

.2.5 Unsulphonatable Residue of Neutral Oil (Ibid., 9. 971, mT/57).
Minimum: 65% by volume.

.3 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.3.1 Stability of Undiluted Product (Ibid., p. 959, MT/51.1)
The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:

(i) The product, after cooling to −5 + 1ºC, shows no marked cloudiness;
(ii) The diluted product, after standing at room temperature, shows no more than slight traces of oil separation.

.3.2 Stability of Diluted Product (Ibid., p. 958, MT/49.2)
Not more than slight traces of free oil shall separate from the diluted product.
.4 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Container shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

.5 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.5.1 Phytotoxicity
At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not legally forbidden.
PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS
FOR WINTER USE ON DORMANT PLANTS
(MISCIBLE TYPE)

FAO Specification Code 29/5/(S3)/6

.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of monophase petroleum products for winter use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Mineral Oil (CIPAC 1A, p. 1320)
Minimum 90% w/w

.2.2 Properties of the Mineral Oil (CIPAC 1, p. 586, section 1.3, method 29/5/(M)/1.3)

.2.2.1 Unsulphonated Residue (CIPAC 1A, p. 1321, MT57)
Minimum 65% w/w shall remain unsulphonated

.2.2.2 Distillation (Method 29/5/M/5.4, CIPAC 1A, p. 1320)
Fraction distilling up to an oil temperature of 350°C: Maximum 5% by volume.

.2.2.3 Relative Density (Method 29/5/M/5.5, CIPAC 1A, p. 1320)
Minimum: 0.83.
Maximum: 0.88.

.2.2.4 Pour Point (Method 29/5/M/5.6, CIPAC 1A, p. 1320)
Maximum –5°C.

.3 IMPURITIES

.3.1 Acidity (Method 29/5/m/4.7) See note 1
Not more than 100 ug of KOH shall be required to neutralize 1 g of the product.

.4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.4.1 Stability of the Undiluted Product (CIPAC 1A, p. 1321, Method 51.1, p. 959)
The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:

(i) After storage at –5 + 1°C for 48 h, and brining back to room temperature, it shows no marked cloudiness;
(ii) the product, stored as in (i), on dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing at room temperature for 2 h, shows not more than slight traces of oil separation.

4.2 Stability of Diluted Product (CIPAC 1A, p. 1321, Method 49.2, p. 958). After dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing for 2 h at room temperature, the diluted product shall show not more than slight traces of free oil.

.5 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

.6 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.6.1 Phytotoxicity

At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

\[^1\] For information
PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS
FOR SUMMER USE
(MISCIBLE TYPE)

FAO Specification Code 29/5a/(S3)/6

.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a monophase petroleum oil products for summer use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Mineral Oil (Method 29/5a/m/5.2, CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum 90% w/w

.2.2 Properties of the Mineral Oil

.2.2.1 Unsulphonated Residue (Method 29/5a/M/5.3 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum 92% w/w shall remain unsulphonated

.2.2.2 Distillation Range (Method 29/5a/m/5.4, CIPAC 1A, p. 1322) See note 3.
Fraction distilling up to an oil temperature of 320°C: Maximum 10% by volume.
Fraction distilling between 360°C and 410°C: Minimum 50% by volume.
Fraction distilling up to 430°C: Minimum 90% by volume.

.2.2.3 Viscosity at 37.78°C (100°F) (Method 29/5a/m/5.5 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum: $10 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ (10cst)
Maximum: $18 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ (18cst).

.2.2.4 Relative Density (Method 29/5a/M/5.6 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum: 0.83.
Maximum: 0.88.

.2.2.5 Pour Point (Method 29/5a/m/5.7 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Maximum –5°C

.3 IMPURITIES

.3.1 Acidity (Method 29/5a/m/4 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Not more than 100 ug of KOH shall be required to neutralize 1 g of the product

.4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES
4.1  **Stability of the Undiluted Product** (Method 54, p 698 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322) The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:

(i) After storage at –5 + 1°C for 48 h, and bringing back to room temperature, it shows no marked cloudiness;

(ii) the product, stored as in (i), on dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing at room temperature for 2 h, shows not more than slight traces of oil separation.

4.2  **Stability of Diluted Product** (Method 55.2 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322). After dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing for 2 h at room temperature, the diluted product shall show not more than slight traces of free oil.

.5 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

.6 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.6.1  **Phytotoxicity**

At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

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1 For information
.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a polyphase products for winter use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Mineral Oil (Method 29/6/M/6.2 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum 60% w/w

.2.2 Properties of the Mineral Oil

.2.2.1 Unsulphonated Residue (Method 29/6/M/6.3 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum 65% w/w shall remain unsulphonated

.2.2.2 Distillation (Method 29/6/M/6.4 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Fraction distilling up to an oil temperature of 350°C: Maximum 5% by volume.

.2.2.3 Relative Density (Method 29/6/M/6.5 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Minimum: 0.83.
Maximum: 0.88.

.2.2.5 Pour Point (Method 29/6/m/6.6 CIPAC 1A, p. 1322)
Maximum –5°C

.3 IMPURITIES

.3.1 Phenols (Method 29/6/m/4.7) See note 1
Maximum: 0.2% w/w

.4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.4.1 Stability of the Undiluted Product (Method 54 CIPAC 1A, p. 1324)
The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:

(i) After storage at –5 + 1°C for 48 h, it shows no obvious separation of oil;
(ii) the product, stored as in (i), on dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing at room temperature for 2 h, shows not more than slight traces of oil separation.
4.2 Stability of Diluted Product (Method 55.3 CIPAC 1A, p. 1324).
After dilution by the method recommended by the manufacturer and after standing for 2 h at room temperature, the diluted product shall show not more than slight traces of free oil.

5 CONTAINERS

Metal containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

6 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

6.1 Phytotoxicity
At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

1 For information
PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS
FOR SUMMER USE
(STOCK EMULSION TYPE)

FAO Specification Code 29/6a/(S3)/6

.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a polyphase petroleum oil products for summer use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Mineral Oil (Method 29/6a/M/5.2 CIPAC 1A, p. 1323)
Minimum 60% w/w

.2.2 Properties of the Mineral Oil

.2.2.1 Unsulphonated Residue (Method 29/6a/M/5.3 CIPAC 1A, p. 1323)
Minimum 92% w/w shall remain unsulphonated

.2.2.2 Distillation Range (Method 29/6a/M/5.4 CIPAC 1A, p. 1323) See note 3
Fraction distilling up to 320°C: Maximum 10% by volume.
Fraction distilling between 360°C and 410°C: Minimum 50% by volume.
Fraction distilling up to 430°C: Minimum 90% by volume.

.2.2.3 Viscosity at 37.78°C (100°F) (Method 29/6a/m/5.5 CIPAC 1A, p. 1323)
Minimum: $10 \times 10^{-6}$ m$^2$/s (10cSt)
Maximum: $18 \times 10^{-6}$ m$^2$/s (18cSt)

.2.2.4 Relative Density (Method 29/6a/M/5.6) CIPAC 1A, p. 1323)
Minimum: 0.83.
Maximum: 0.88.

.2.2.5 Pour Point (Method 29/6a/m/5.7) CIPAC 1A, p. 1323)
Maximum –5°C

.3 IMPURITIES

.3.1 Phenols (Method 29/6a/m/4.8) See note 1
Maximum: 0.2% w/w

.4 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.4.1 Stability of the Undiluted Product (Method 29/6a/M/4.9) See note 1
The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:
(i) After storage at –5 ± 1ºC for 48 h, it shows no obvious separation of oil;
(ii) the product, stored as in (i), on dilution by the method recommended by
the manufacturer and after standing at room temperature the diluted
product shall show not more than slight traces of oil separation.

.5 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior
surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety
regulations.

.6 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.6.1 Phytotoxicity
At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of
formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with
the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted
or legally forbidden.

\(^{1}\) For information
PETROLEUM OIL PRODUCTS
FOR SUMMER USE IN ORCHARDS
(STOCK EMULSION TYPE)

FAO Specification Code 29/6b/(S)/3

.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a polyphase petroleum oil products for summer use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Neutral Oil (See CIPAC I, p. 591, section 1.2, Method 29/6b/M/1.2)
   Minimum 60% w/w

.2.2 Specific Gravity of Neutral Oil at 15.5/15.5°C (Ibid., p. 591, section 1.4,
   method 29/6b/M/1.4)
   Minimum: 0.84.
   Maximum: 0.92.

.2.3 Distillation Range of Neutral Oil (Ibid., p. 984, MT/61)
   (i) 10% by weight shall distil at an oil temperature between 310 and 340°C;
   (ii) 50% between 350 and 375°C;
   (ii) 80% between 380 and 400°C

.2.4 Unsolphatable Residue of Neutral Oil (Ibid., p. 971, MT/57)
   Minimum: 92% by volume

.2.5 Viscosity of Neutral Oil at 70°C (Ibid., p. 889, MT/22.2)
   Minimum: 100 seconds Redwood.
   Maximum: 200 seconds Redwood.

.3 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.3.1 Stability of the Undiluted Product (Ibid., p. 968 MT/54)
   The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:
   (i) The product after cooling to –5 ± 1°C for 48 h, shows no obvious separation of oil;
   (ii) The diluted product after standing at room temperature shows no more than slight traces of oil separation.

.3.2 Stability of Diluted Product (Ibid., p. 969, MT/55.3)
Not more than traces of free oil shall separate from the diluted product.

.4 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

.5 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.5.1 Phytotoxicity

At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.
.1 DESCRIPTION

The product shall consist of a polyphase petroleum oil products for summer use excluding those containing additional pesticides.

.2 ACTIVE INGREDIENT

.2.1 Neutral Oil (See CIPAC I, p. 592, section 1.2, Method 29/6c/M/1.2)
Minimum 60% w/w

.2.2 Specific Gravity of Neutral Oil at 15.5/15.5°C (Ibid., p. 592, section 1.4, method 29/6c/M/1.4)
Minimum: 0.84.
Maximum: 0.89.

.2.3 Distillation Range of Neutral Oil (Ibid., p. 984, MT/61)
(i) 10% by volume of the oil shall distil at an oil temperature between 310 and 340°C;
(ii) 50% between 350 and 375°C;
(ii) 80% between 380 and 400°C

.2.4 Unsolphatable Residue of Neutral Oil (Ibid., p. 971, MT/57)
Minimum: 95%

.2.5 Viscosity of Neutral Oil at 70°C (Ibid., p. 889, MT/22.2)
Minimum: 100 seconds Redwood.
Maximum: 200 seconds Redwood.

.3 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

.3.1 Stability of the Undiluted Product (Ibid., p. 968 MT/54)
The undiluted product shall be considered to comply with this clause if:

(i) The product after cooling to \(-5 \pm 1\)°C for 48 h, shows no obvious separation of oil;
(ii) The diluted product after standing at room temperature shows no more than slight traces of oil separation.

.3.2 Stability of Diluted Product (Ibid., p. 970, MT/55.4)
Not more than traces of free oil shall separate from the diluted product.
.4 CONTAINERS

Containers shall be lined, where necessary, with a suitable material, or the interior surfaces treated to prevent corrosion and/or deterioration of the contents.

Containers shall comply with pertinent national and international transport and safety regulations.

.5 BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

.5.1 Phytotoxicity
At the present stage of our knowledge, no test can be specified to cover phytotoxicity of formulations to crops.

When a crop is not mentioned in the instructions for use, purchasers should check with the supplier that the material is suitable, always provided that such a use is not restricted or legally forbidden.

\footnote{For information}
NOTES

Note 1: Method not included in CIPAC I, but will appear in IA,

Note 2: Maximum permitted phenol content in these products in the State of California, USA, is 0%.

Note 3: The method is a vacuum distillation method, the specified temperatures have been corrected to 760 mm pressure.