



DRAFT TANZANIA STANDARD

**Determination of overall migration of constituents of plastics
materials and articles intended to come in contact with foodstuffs-
Method of analysis**

TANZANIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Draft for stakeholders' comments only



0. Foreword

The ingredients in the plastics packaging materials may cause toxicity as a result of their migration to the foodstuffs in which the later are packed. Prior to categorizing such plastics as toxic, evidence regarding degree of migration of their constituents has to be ascertained.

Since it is not always possible to analyze actual foodstuffs for nature and quantity of migrants from the plastics, food simulants/extractants have to be substituted for the actual foodstuffs in order to simplify such assessment.

Due to difficultness of estimating all the migrants individually, overall migration of all the migrants put together is considered for safe use, unless they are especially toxic and their limits fixed.

In the preparation of this standard assistance has been derived from: IS 9845:1998 Determination of overall migration of constituents of plastics materials and articles intended to come in contact with foodstuffs - Method of analysis published by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

In reporting the result of a test or analysis made in accordance with this standard, if the final values observed or calculated, is to be rounded off it shall be done in accordance with *TZS 4 Rounding off numerical values*.

1. Scope

This standard prescribes the methods of analysis for determination of overall migration of constituents of single or multi-layered heat-sealable films, single homogenous non-sealable films, finished containers and closures for sealing as lids, in the finished form, preformed or converted form.

2. Normative References

The following standard, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies

AFDC 2 (231) CD2: Specification for plastic materials for food contact applications part 3: Colorants

AFDC 2 (227) CD2: Guide on suitability of plastics for food packaging

3. Terms and Definitions

3.1 food Simulants

a test medium imitating food; in its behavior the food simulant mimics migration from food contact materials

3.2 Multi-Layered

a material or article composed of two or more layers of plastic

4.0 requirements

4.1 Simulants

The determination of migration in simulants is to be carried out using the simulants laid down in Table 1:

Table 1: Types of simulants used in determination of migrants

Types of Simulants	Examples
Simulant 'A'	distilled water or water of equivalent quality
Simulant 'B'	3 percent acetic acid (w/v) in aqueous solution (using the simulant 'A')
Simulant 'C ¹ '	10 percent 'ethanol (v/v) in aqueous solution for foodstuffs having alcohol less than 10 percent (v/v) (using the simulant 'A').
Simulant 'C ² '	50 percent ethanol (v/v) in aqueous solution for foodstuffs: having alcohol more than 10 percent and less than 50 percent (v/v) (using the simulant 'A').
Simulant 'D'	n-heptane - shall be freshly distilled before use.

4.2 selection of standard test conditions and simulants for different foods

4.2.1 The choice of simulating solvents and test conditions (time-temperature) depends on the type of food and condition of use of food products. Food products have been now classified into seven major groups as per Table 2.

**Table 2: Classification of Foods and Selection of simulant
(Clause 4.1)**

Food type	Description	Example	Simulants
I	Aqueous, non acidic foods (pH > 5) without fat	Honey, mineral water, sugar syrups molasses, skimmed milk, rasgulla, infusions, murabba, yeast paste etc.	A
II	Aqueous, acidic foods (pH 5.5) without fat	Fruit juices, squashes, fruit chunks or puree or paste, vinegar, jams, jellies, carbonated beverages. lemonade, processed vegetables, rennet, preparations of soups, broths, sauces, RTS beverages etc.	B
III	i) Alcoholic beverages: Alcohol concentration less than 10 percent	Beer	C ¹
	ii) Alcoholic beverages: Alcohol concentration above 10 percent	Wine, brandy, whiskey, arrack and other alcoholic drinks	C ²
IV	Oils, fats and processed dry foods with surface fat or volatile oil	Vegetable oils, Ghee, Vanaspati, cocoa butter, lard, biscuits, spice powder, snacks and savoury, chocolate, caramels, malted foods, egg powder, tea, coffee powder, confectionery, fried and roasted nuts etc.	D
V	Non-acidic foods (pH > 5) or high fat and having high moisture content	Butter, bread, pastry. Shreekind with low cakes, milk-based sweets, ice-cream, moist and fatty confectionery products	A and D

VI	Acidic foods (pH <5) or high fat and having high moisture content	Pickles, ketchup, cheese, with low curd, fresh and processed meat and fish products, sauces having fat, frozen foods, mayonnaise etc.	B and D
VII	Dry processed foods without fat	Cereals and pulses, dehydrated vegetable and fruits, dried yeast, corn flakes, salt, sugar, milled products, barley powder, oats, vermicelli, spaghetti etc.	No end test

The food products listed in AFDC 2 (227) CD2 have been fully covered in this table (further additions shall be made whenever necessary). This table has been prepared on the lines of accepted classification of foodstuffs for such purposes in developed countries. Table 1 also gives suitable simulants to be used for different types of foods.

4.2.2 Table 3 lists the simulants and test conditions (time-temperature) for extractability studies to be carried out as above depending on the type of food and conditions of use.

Table 3: Simulating solvents for different types of food and temperature- time conditions
(Clause 4.2)

Conditions of Use	Type of Food	Water (Time-Temp)	3% Acetic Acid (Time-Temp)	10% Alcohol (Time-Temp)	50% Alcohol (Time-Temp)	n-Heptane (Time-Temp)
High temperature heat sterilized (retorting)	I, II, IV, V and VI	121°C, 2h	121°C, 2h	-	-	66°C, 2h
Hot filled or pasteurized above 66°C, below 100 °C	I, II, IV, V and VI	100°C, 2h	100°C, 2h	-	-	49°C for 30 minutes
Hot filled or pasteurized below 60°C	I to VI	70°C, 2h	70°C, 2h	70°C, 2h	70°C	38°C for 30minutes
Room temperature filled and stored (no thermal treatment in container) and also in refrigerated and frozen condition	I to VI	40°C, 10 days	40°C, 10 days	40°C, 10 days	40°C, 10 days	38°C for 30minutes

NOTES

1. Heptane simulant not to be used on wax lined containers.
2. Heptane extractivity results must be divided by a factor of five in arriving at the extractivity of a food product.

5. Methods I:

For finished container (within two liters capacity) or sealable single/multi-layered flexible films (one side exposure)

5.1 apparatus

5.1.1 electric oven/water bath equipped with thermostat to maintain the desired temperature up to $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ accuracy.

5.1.2 electric hot plate with temperature control regulator.

5.1.3 analytical balance with a sensitivity of 0.1mg.

5.1.4 glass beakers, pyrex of 1000mL capacity or equivalent

5.1.5 stainless steel evaporating dish of 100mL capacity

5.1.6 Stainless steel tongs.

5.2 Selection of Samples

Minimum triplicate samples representing the lot/batch have to be selected. Samples in each replicate shall not consist of a number of containers (preformed or converted products) with nearest exposed area of 1000cm² in the case of films representative sample shall be of sufficient size to convert into 2 pouches of size 125mm width and 200mm length (inner dimension excluding seal area) with 1000cm³ surface area coming in contact.

5.3 Preparation of Test Specimen

The containers/pouches used shall be carefully rinsed with water (25-30°C) to remove extraneous materials prior to actual migration test.

5.4 Simulant Quantity

Equal to nominal filling capacity or at least 1 mL/cm² of contact area.

NOTE - Glassware, laboratory apparatus which come into contact with simulants and/or the sample during the test shall be thoroughly washed and dried prior to test.

5.5 Procedure

Fill the container/pouch to their filled capacity with preheated simulant at test temperature and close it. In case of pouches, exclude air as much as possible before sealing and expose the filled container/pouch to specified temperature maintained in oven/water bath/pressure cooker/autoclave for the specified duration of time. After exposure for the specified duration, remove the container/pouch and transfer the contents immediately into a clean Pyrex beaker along with three washings of the specimen with small quantity of the fresh simulant.

5.6 Determination of Amount of Extractive

Evaporate/distill the contents in Pyrex beaker to about 50-60mL and transfer into a clean tared stainless-steel dish along with 3 washings of Pyrex beaker with small quantity of fresh simulant and further evaporate the concentrate in the dish to dryness in an oven at 100±5°C. Cool the dish with extractive in a desiccator for 30 minutes and weigh to nearest 0.1mg till constant weight of residue is obtained. Calculate the extractives in mg/dm² and mg/kg or mg/L or ppm of the foodstuff with respect to the capacity of container/pouch to be used. Blank shall also be carried out without the sample.

$$\text{Amount of extractive (Ex)} = \frac{M}{A} \times 100 \text{ mg/dm}^2$$

and

$$\frac{M}{V} \times 1000 \text{ mg/kg or mg/L} \quad \text{or ppm}$$

Where:

M = mass of residue in mg minus blank value,

A = total surface area in cm² exposed in each replicate, and

V = total volume in mL of simulant used in each replicate.

NOTES

1. for irregular shaped containers, nearest surface area is obtained by superimposing the graph sheet on the container and getting the surface area by increments in each segment.
2. In case of heptane as solvent divide EX by a factor of five in arriving at the extractivity for a food product.

6. Method II:

For larger containers made of single homogenous material above 2 litre capacity

6.1 Selection of Sample

Minimum 3 containers representing the lot/batch are to be selected.

6.2 Test Specimen

Cut 5 pieces each of size 10 cm x 10 cm from each container at different places (each piece exposing about 200 cm² surface area both sides). In the case of thick material area corresponding to thickness of the sample shall also be included.

6.3 Procedure

Immerse 5 thoroughly cleaned pieces cut from each container into a clean glass container (2 litre capacity beaker) containing preconditioned simulant at test temperature such that no two pieces touch each other by placing a 2 to 3mm dia glass rod in between the specimens and cover the beaker with glass plate/watch glass and keep the set at specified temperature maintained in oven/water bath/pressure cooker for the specified duration of time. After exposure for the specified time, remove the test specimen from the extracted simulant with the help of clean tongs and wash the pieces with small amount of fresh simulant and combine with the extracted simulant. Blank shall also be carried out without the sample.

6.4 Determination of amount of extractive

Calculate the extractive in mg/dm² and mg/kg or mg/L or ppm with respect to capacity of the container in accordance with the procedure specified in 5.6.

$$\text{Amount of Extractive (Ex)} = \frac{M}{A} \times 100 \text{ mg/dm}^2$$

$$\text{Ex in ppm} = M \times TSA \times \frac{1\,000}{A \times V}$$

Where:

M = mass of residue in mg minus blank value,

A = surface area in cm² exposed in each replicate,

TSA = total surface area of the container in cm², and

V = total volume of the container (cm³).

NOTE -- Heptane extractive to be divided by factor of five.

7.0 METHOD III: Both side exposure for single homogenous film, which cannot be heat sealed

7.1 Apparatus

7.1.1 Cylindrical Glass Jar, inner dimension of 10cm diameter and 14cm height with 1 000 mL capacity (or 1 litre beaker).

7.1.2 Water Bath/Electrical Oven, equipped with thermostat to maintain the desired temperature up to 1°C.

7.1.3 Glass/Stainless Steel Pins, of 7.5-8.00 cm working length with extra bends 'at both the ends.

7.1.4 Electric Hot Plate, with temperature regulator.

7.2 Specimen Size

A film sample of 1 000cm² surface area both sides with width not more than 10 cm and an appropriate length to get the required area (10cm x 50cm x 2 sides = 1 000cm²).

7.3 Simulant Quantity

Not less than 1 000 mL to immerse the sample completely.

7.4 Preparation of Specimen

The film sample is rolled in the form of a coil in different concentric rings such that no two layers shall touch each other, and held in shape with the help of glass or stainless steel (SS) pin (see Fig. 1).

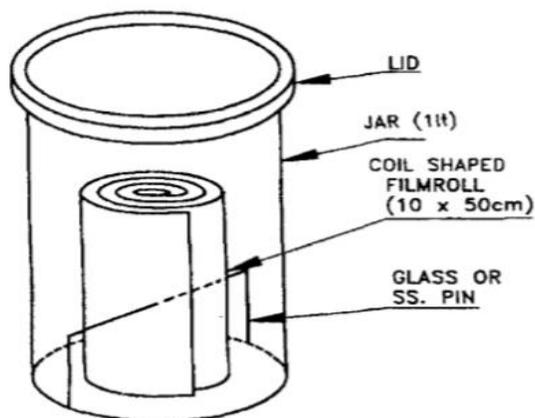


FIG. 1 EXTRACTION CELL

7.5 Procedure

Fill the cylindrical jar of 1000mL capacity with the required quantity of preheated simulant at the test temperature. Immerse the test specimen in the simulant completely. Cover with a glass plate and place the jar with sample immersed in simulant at the prescribed temperature for the prescribed length of time. At the end of the test period remove the sample with the help of glass rod and wash the sample with small quantity of fresh simulant and combine with the extractants. Concentrate the extracted simulant to 50-60mL, by evaporating on a hot plate under low heat (n-heptane shall be concentrated by distillation). Transfer the concentrate into a clean tared stainless-steel dish along with three washings with small amount of fresh simulant and further evaporate the concentrate to dryness in an oven at $100 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$. Cool this in a desiccator for 30 minutes and weigh to nearest 0.1mg till constant weight of residue is obtained. Calculate the extractive in mg/dm^2 . Blank shall also be carried out without the sample.

Where:

M= mass of residue in mg minus blank value, and

A= total surface area in cm^2 exposed in each replicate.

NOTE - Heptane extractive value to be divided by factor of five.

8. Method IV: for closures, sealing gaskets, liners and like materials

8.1 Selection of Sample

At least triplicate samples each consisting of a number of closures/sealing gaskets/liners with the lids exposing about 100 cm^2 contact area (or ten lids) per replicate in each representing a lot or batch shall be selected.

8.2 Procedure

Smallest size glass bottles/jars actually being intended for use with closures can be used as containers to contain the simulant. Fill the glass container to their nominal capacity or 100 mL, whichever is lower with simulant preheated to test temperature and closed tight with the closures/lids lined with the test specimen. Place the closed containers upside down (to ensure the contact of the closures with the simulant) in an oven maintained at test temperature. After the exposure to the stipulated time, the closure



from the containers is opened and the contents from each replicate is pooled together in a glass beaker along with the washings of the exposed closures with small amount of fresh simulant. Blank shall also be carried out without the sample.

8.3 Determination of Amount of Extractive

Proceed with the determination amount of extractive by method described at 5.6.

Calculate the amount of extractive in ppm for the particular size of container being tested.

$$\text{Amount of extractive (Ex)} = \frac{M}{V} \times 1\,000 \text{ ppm}$$

Where:

M = mass of residue in mg minus blank value, and V = volume of the container in mL in a replicate in actual use.

NOTES

1. If the extractive values for a smaller size container are within the prescribed limits, it may be taken that extractive values for a larger size container of the same material and same shape will definitely be less than the smaller container used.
2. Heptane extractive to be divided by factor of five.

9. METHOD V: Materials of articles intended to come into repeated contact with foodstuffs

The migration test(s) shall be carried out three times on a same sample one after the other in accordance with the conditions laid down already using fresh simulant(s) in each occasion, following any one of the method applicable to it described earlier. Its compliance shall be checked on the basis of the level of the migration found in the third test. However, if there is conclusive proof that the level of the migration does not increase in the second and third tests and if the migration limit(s) is/are not exceeded on the first test, no further test is necessary.

10. Evaluation of results

The materials and articles are regarded as conforming to the specifications if in the migration tests for each simulant used, the average of at least three results does not exceed the value of overall migration limit specified in the relevant standards.

NOTE - Before carrying out the test, make sure that sample is free from all traces of dust, fats and other impurities. If necessary, it shall be thoroughly wiped with filter paper (Whatman No. 1). The sample shall be handled carefully-to avoid any contamination.

11. Colour migration

In the case of coloured plastic materials, colour migrated to simulant or decolorized coconut oil or food packed shall not be apparent to naked eye. If the colour migrated is clearly visible, such materials are not suitable for food contact applications, even though the extractive value is within the limit (see AFDC 2(231) CD2).