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# International Standard



# 7409

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION • МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ • ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

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## Fertilizers — Marking — Presentation and declarations

*Engrais — Marquage — Présentation et mentions à déclarer*

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Descriptors : fertilizers, marking, labelling, generalities.

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been authorized has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 7409 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 134, *Fertilizers and soil conditioners*, and was circulated to the member bodies in November 1981.

It has been approved by the member bodies of the following countries:

Austria	Italy	Romania
Czechoslovakia	Kenya	South Africa, Rep. of
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	Korea, Rep. of	Sri Lanka
France	Mexico	United Kingdom
Germany, F.R.	Netherlands	USA
Hungary	Norway	USSR
Iraq	Poland	
Israel	Portugal	

The member bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds:

Chile  
India

# Fertilizers — Marking — Presentation and declarations

## 1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies the procedure for marking containers or labels for fertilizers, where national legislation permits.

It is applicable to all fertilizers in containers.

### NOTES

- 1 The spelling "fertiliser" is recognized but the spelling "fertilizer" is preferred and is used throughout.
- 2 Attention is drawn to ISO 8157, *Fertilizers and soil conditioners — Vocabulary*,<sup>1)</sup> which defines terminology used in this International Standard.

## 2 Principle

Establishment of the label size, the position of the declarations and the size of the characters (letters and figures) so as to enable the user to identify the fertilizer and to determine its characteristics. These details will vary according to whether the container holds :

- more than 25 kg (or 25 l) of fertilizer, or
- from 5 to 25 kg (or 5 to 25 l) of fertilizer, or
- less than 5 kg (or 5 l) of fertilizer.

## 3 General requirements

Declarations shall be legibly and indelibly marked on a uniform and contrasting background.

## 4 Pre-marked containers

### 4.1 Containers holding more than 25 kg (or 25 l) of fertilizer

#### 4.1.1 Position and area of space for marking

A rectangular space, the total area of which shall be at least 10 % of the face selected, shall be provided on one of the main faces of the container. Declarations shall be marked within this area. The edges of the space shall be parallel to the edges of the container.

NOTE — It is recommended that the type and grade be also marked on the sides or gussets of non-rigid containers.

### 4.1.2 Sizes of characters

Three sizes of characters shall be used, according to the area of the space for marking (4.1.1), so that the text can be set out clearly. These three sizes shall be in a ratio  $X/Y/Z$  which may vary only within the limits indicated in table 1. The smallest letters shall have a height of at least 5 mm.

The size of lower-case characters shall be determined by the height of the letters without a down stroke (for example e, o, u, n).

The height of upper-case characters shall be typographically consistent with the height of the lower-case characters.

Table 1 — Ratio of the three sizes of characters

Size of the smallest letters	Ratio of sizes small (X), medium (Y), large (Z)	
	minimum ratio	maximum ratio
mm		
< 9	1/2/4	1/3/9
> 9	1/1,5/3	1/2,5/7

### 4.1.3 Sizes of characters for declarations

The declarations shall be printed in characters corresponding to the type sizes given in table 2.

Table 2 — Sizes of characters for declarations

Declaration	Characters		
	Small X	Medium Y	Large Z
"Fertilizer"		X	
Type and grade		X	X
Composition {		X	
	Nutrient content(s)		
	Form(s) and/or solubility(ies)	X	
Fineness of grind	X		
Mass or volume		X	X
Name and address of the person or organization responsible for marketing	X	X	
Other requirements	X	X	

1) At present at the stage of draft.