

# ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

## ISO RECOMMENDATION R 210

ESSENTIAL OILS

PACKING

1st EDITION

September 1961

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Printed in Switzerland

Also issued in French and Russian. Copies to be obtained through the national standards organizations.

## BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 210, *Essential Oils. Packing*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential Oils*, the Secretariat of which is held by the Repartição de Normalização (IGPAI).

Work on this question by the Technical Committee began in 1952 and led in 1953 to the adoption of a Draft ISO Recommendation.

This first Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 54) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. As the results of this consultation were not considered satisfactory, the Technical Committee successively put forward a second and a third Draft ISO Recommendation, which were circulated in October 1957 and August 1959 respectively.

This third Draft was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

Burma	Italy	Romania
Canada	Japan	Spain
Chile	Mexico	Sweden
France	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Germany	New Zealand	U.S.S.R.
Greece	Pakistan	Yugoslavia
India	Poland	
Israel	Portugal	

One Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft:

Belgium.

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in September 1961, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

## ESSENTIAL OILS

### PACKING

#### 1. PURPOSE

As essential oils are of a special nature, it is desirable to standardize their packing.

This ISO Recommendation lays down the general guide for packing essential oils. These oils should be placed in containers which, by their nature, protect the products and do not cause alteration in them.

#### 2. CONTAINERS

The containers to be used are:

2.1 Metallic containers (such as casks, barrels, drums, cans), sound, new or in good condition, clean and dry, not having contained any product that may alter the quality, the composition or the odour of the essential oil, and made of the following materials:

(a) for edible essential oils,

only adequately tinned or enamelled iron, or iron coated internally with a resistant lacquer or enamel, or aluminium;

(b) for other essential oils,

adequately tinned, galvanized or enamelled iron, or iron coated internally with a resistant lacquer or enamel paint, copper or tinned copper, tin plate, or aluminium.

Containers with a capacity of more than 100 l should be bound with hoops or provided with moulded ribs. Their closures should be threaded, to provide tight joints. The stoppers and necks should have holes to allow the passage of a wire to bear the seal.

2.2 Glass containers of any capacity or shape, provided that they are protected against breakage and light.

2.3 Plastics containers or containers lined inside with a plastics material, provided that they conform to the requirements set out in respect of metal containers in the first lines of clause 2.1, are inert towards the essential oils for which they are to be used and comply with any additional requirements set out in specifications which may be prescribed at a later date by Technical Committee ISO/TC 54, *Essential Oils*.

#### 3. FILLING

In order to comply with international agreements on the carriage of dangerous products, the head space should be between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of the volume of the container, depending on the method of transport adopted.

#### 4. CLOSURES

The closures may be of cork, glass or any other suitable material. If they are not of glass, the surface in contact with the essential oil should be of tin, aluminium or other material which has no effect on the product. Threaded closures are dealt with in clause 2.1, last paragraph.

The containers should be provided with a tamper-proof seal on the closure.