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ANNEX III

Labelling requirements

PART III

TOLERANCE RULES

- 1. The declared nutrient content or physico-chemical characteristics of an EU fertilising product may deviate from the actual value only in accordance with the tolerances established in this Part for the relevant PFC. The tolerances are intended to allow for deviations in manufacture, in the distribution chain, and during sampling and analysis.
- 2. The tolerances allowed in respect of the declared parameters indicated in this Part are negative and positive values.
- 3. By derogation from point 1, the actual content of a component, in an EU fertilising product, for which a minimum or a maximum content is specified in Annex I or Annex II may never be lower than the minimum content or exceed the maximum content.

PFC 1: FERTILISER

The following tolerance rules apply to fertilisers containing nitrification inhibitors, denitrification inhibitors or urease inhibitors, as specified in CMC 1 in Part II of Annex II:

Inhibitors	Permissible tolerance for the declared content of inhibitors
Concentration below or equal to 2 %	± 20 % of the declared value
Concentration of more than 2 %	\pm 0,3 percentage points in absolute terms

PFC 1(A): ORGANIC FERTILISER

Forms of the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerance for the declared nutrient content and other declared parameters
Organic carbon (C _{org})	\pm 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 2,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Dry matter content	\pm 5,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Total nitrogen (N)	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Organic nitrogen (N _{org})	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total phosphorus pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms

Total potassium oxide (K ₂ O)	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total and water-soluble magnesium oxide (MgO), calcium oxide (CaO), sulphur trioxide(SO ₃) or sodium oxide (Na ₂ O)	± 25 % of the declared content of those nutrients up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Organic carbon (C _{org})/total nitrogen (N)	± 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 2,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Quantity	\pm 1,5 % relative deviation of the declared value

PFC 1(B): ORGANO-MINERAL FERTILISER

Forms of the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerance for the declared macronutrient content and other declared parameters
Organic carbon (C _{org})	\pm 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 2,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Dry matter content	\pm 5,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of inorganic nitrogen (N)	\pm 25 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 2,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Organic nitrogen (N _{org})	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Declared forms of phosphorus pentoxide (P_2O_5)	\pm 25 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of potassium oxide (K ₂ O)	\pm 25 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Total and water-soluble magnesium oxide (MgO), calcium oxide (CaO), sulphur trioxide (SO ₃)	± 25 % of the declared content of those nutrients up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total and water-soluble sodium oxide (Na ₂ O)	\pm 25 % of the declared content up to a maximum of 0,9 percentage point in absolute terms
Quantity	\pm 1,5 % relative deviation of the declared value
Micronutrient	Permissible tolerance for the declared content of forms of micronutrient
Concentration below or equal to 2 %	± 20 % of the declared value

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Concentration of more than 2 % and below or equal to 10 %	\pm 20 % of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Concentration of more than 10 %	\pm 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms

PFC 1(C): INORGANIC FERTILISER

Forms of the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerance for the declared macronutrient content and other declared parameters
Declared forms of nitrogen (N)	\pm 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of phosphorus pentoxide (P_2O_5)	\pm 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of potassium oxide (K ₂ O)	\pm 20 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of nitrogen (N), phosphorus pentoxide (P_2O_5) or potassium oxide (K_2O) in binary fertilisers	\pm 1,5 percentage points in absolute terms
Declared forms of nitrogen (N), phosphorus pentoxide (P_2O_5) or potassium oxide (K_2O) in tertiary fertilisers	\pm 1,9 percentage points in absolute terms
Total and water-soluble magnesium oxide (MgO), calcium oxide (CaO), sulphur trioxide (SO ₃)	± 25 % of the declared content of those nutrients up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total and water soluble sodium oxide (Na ₂ O)	 - 25 % of the declared content up to a maximum of 0,9 percentage point in absolute terms + 50 % of the declared content up to a maximum of 1,8 percentage points in absolute terms
Granulometry	\pm 10 % relative deviation of the declared percentage of material passing a specific sieve
Quantity	\pm 1 % relative deviation of the declared value
Micronutrient	Permissible tolerance for the declared content of forms of micronutrient
Concentration below or equal to 2 %	± 20 % of the declared value
Concentration of more than 2 % and below or equal to 10 %	\pm 20 % of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms

Concentration of more than 10 %

 \pm 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms

Quantity: \pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value PFC 2: LIMING MATERIAL

Forms of the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerances for the declared parameter
Neutralising value	± 3
Granulometry	\pm 10 % relative deviation of the declared percentage of material passing a specific sieve.
Total calcium oxide (CaO)	\pm 3,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Total magnesium oxide (MgO)	
Concentration below 8 %	\pm 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Concentration between 8 to 16 %	\pm 2,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Concentration above or equal to 16 %	\pm 3,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Reactivities (hydrochloric acid test and incubation test)	\pm 5,0 percentage points in absolute terms
Quantity	\pm 1 % relative deviation of the declared value

PFC 3: SOIL IMPROVER

Forms of the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerances for the declared parameter
pН	\pm 1,0 of the declared value
Organic carbon (C _{org})	\pm 10 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Organic nitrogen (N _{org})	\pm 50 % relative deviation of the declared value up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total nitrogen (N)	\pm 20 % relative deviation up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total phosphorus pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	\pm 20 % relative deviation up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Total potassium oxide (K ₂ O)	\pm 20 % relative deviation up to a maximum of 1,0 percentage point in absolute terms
Dry matter content	\pm 10 % relative deviation of the declared value
Quantity	\pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value
Electrical conductivity	\pm 75 % relative deviation of the declared value

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PFC 4: GROWING MEDIUM

Forms for the declared nutrient and other declared parameters	Permissible tolerances for the declared parameter
Electrical conductivity	\pm 75 % relative deviation of the declared value
pH	\pm 1,0 of the declared value
Quantity by volume (litres or m ³)	\pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value
Quantity (volume) determination of materials with particle size greater than 60 mm	\pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value
Quantity (volume) determination of pre- shaped growing medium	\pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value
Nitrogen (N) extractable by CaCl ₂ /DTPA (calcium chloride/ diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid; 'CAT- soluble')	\pm 75 % relative deviation of the declared value
Phosphorus pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅) extractable by CaCl ₂ /DTPA (calcium chloride/ diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid; 'CAT- soluble')	\pm 75 % relative deviation of the declared value
Potassium oxide (K ₂ O) extractable by CaCl ₂ /DTPA (calcium chloride/ diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid; 'CAT- soluble')	\pm 75 % relative deviation of the declared value

PFC 5: INHIBITOR

Inhibiting compound	Permissible tolerance for the declared content of inhibiting compound
Concentration below or equal to 2 %	± 20 % of the declared value
Concentration of more than 2 %	\pm 0,3 percentage point in absolute terms

Quantity: \pm 5 % relative deviation of the declared value PFC 6(A): MICROBIAL PLANT BIOSTIMULANT

The actual concentration(s) of micro-organisms may deviate by no more than 15 % from the declared value(s).

PFC 7: FERTILISING PRODUCT BLEND

Where the fertilising product blend contains one or more plant biostimulants belonging to PFC 6, the following tolerances shall apply for the declared concentration of each plant biostimulant:

Declared concentration in g/kg or g/l at 20 °C	Permissible tolerance
Up to 25	\pm 15 % relative deviation
More than 25 up to 100	\pm 10 % relative deviation

More than 100 up to 250	\pm 6 % relative deviation
More than 250 up to 500	\pm 5 % relative deviation
More than 500	± 25 g/kg or ± 25 g/l

Changes to legislation:

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