SCHEDULE 2

METHODS OF ANALYSIS

PART I

17.

EXTRACTION OF WATER-SOLUBLE CALCIUM, MAGNESIUM, SODIUM AND SULFUR (IN THE FORM OF SULFATES)

1 SCOPE

1. This method is for the extraction of water-soluble calcium, magnesium, sodium and sulfur (in the form of sulfates), so that the same extract can be used to determine each nutrient required.

2 FIELD OF APPLICATION

2. This method applies solely to fertilisers for which a declaration of the water-soluble calcium, magnesium, sodium and sulfur (in the form of sulfates) is required.

3 PRINCIPLE

3. The nutrients are dissolved in boiling water.

4 REAGENTS

4. Distilled or demineralized water of equivalent quality.

5 APPARATUS

5

Electric hot plate with adjustable temperature.

6 PREPARATION OF THE SAMPLE

6. See method 1.

7 PROCEDURE

7

7.1 Test sample.

(a) Where fertilisers contain no sulfur or where they contain, at the same time, no more than 3% of sulfur (S) i.e. 7.5% SO3, and no more than 4% of calcium (Ca) i.e. 5.6% CaO, weigh out 5 g of fertiliser to within 1 mg.

(b) Where fertilisers contain more than 3% of sulfur (S) and more than 4% of calcium (Ca), weigh out 1 g of fertiliser to within 1 mg.

Place the test sample in a 600 ml beaker.

7.2 Preparation of the solution.

Add approximately 400 ml of water and boil for 30 minutes. Allow to cool, stirring occasionally, and transfer quantitatively into a 500 ml graduated flask. Make up to volume with water and mix.

Filter through a dry filter into a dry container:

Discard the initial portion of the filtrate. The filtrate must be completely clear.

Stopper if the solution is not to be used immediately.