Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories



PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSIS OF SOILS

D422-63 (2007)e2 \_\_\_\_\_

## **APPARATUS / SECTION 3**

1. BALANCES: Balance readable to 0.01 g for materials passing 2.0 mm? Balance with basic tolerance of ± 0.1% of sample mass for material retained on the 2.00 mm sieve?
2. DRYING OVEN: Thermostatically controlled, forced-draft and capable of maintaining a uniform temperature of 110°±5°C throughout?
<ul> <li>3. STIRRING APPARATUS:</li> <li>a) Mechanically operated with rotating speed ≥ 10 000 rpm?</li> <li>b) Rotating shaft equipped with replaceable paddle as per Figure 1a?</li> <li>c) Paddle capable of operating ≥ 19 mm and ≤ 38 mm above bottom of cup?</li> <li>d) Dispersion cup conforming to designs shown in Figure 2?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>4. HYDROMETER:</li> <li>a) Meets requirements of Type 152 H of ASTM E 100?</li> <li>b) Graduated to read in grams per litre?</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>5. SEDIMENTATION AND CONTROL CYLINDERS:</li> <li>a) 1000 mL capacity graduated glass cylinder?</li> <li>b) Cylinder measures 457 mm in height and 60 ± 1.2 mm in diameter?</li> <li>c) 1000-mL mark at 360 mm ± 20 mm from bottom, measured inside?</li> </ul>
6. THERMOMETER: a) Readable to 0.5°C? b) Calibrated to a thermometer accurate to 0.1°C?
<ul> <li>7. SIEVES:</li> <li>a) Set of square-mesh, woven-wire cloth sieves conforming to ASTM E 11 in satisfactory condition?</li> <li>b) Set of sieves giving a uniform spacing of points on the grain size distribution curve?</li> <li>c) Such a set normally consists of 75 mm, 37.5 mm, 19 mm, 9.5 mm, 4.75 mm, 2.36 mm, 1.18 mm, 600 μm, 300 μm, 150 μm and 75 μm?</li> </ul>
8. MECHANICAL SIEVE SHAKER: Used for the sieving operation of the material pass 2.00 mm retained on 75 μm. Motion is such that it causes the particles to bounce and turn

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## APPARATUS / SECTION 3 (CONTINUED)

<ul> <li>9. CONSTANT TEMPERATURE ROOM/WATER BATH</li> <li>a) Temperature control by water bath or constant temperature room?</li> <li>b) Capable of maintaining 20° ± 2°C temperature throughout 24 hrs? Use K to correct temperature</li> </ul>
10. BEAKER: 250 ml to 400 mL glass beaker?
11. TIMER: A clock, stopwatch, or digital timer readable to one second?
12. SAMPLE SPLITTER: Minimum of 12 chutes, 12.5 - 20 mm wide for fine aggregates?
<ul> <li>13. DISPERSING AGENT:</li> <li>a) Strength of solution corresponds to type of soil to be tested (Table 1)?</li> <li>b) Solution prepared freshly and adjusted to a pH between 8 and 9?</li> </ul>
14. WATER: A supply of distilled water for preparation of test specimen and dispersing solution?
15. SAMPLE PREPARATION: Does the laboratory have the equipment capable of preparing the sample as outlined in ASTM D 421? This should include a mechanical device consisting of a power driven rubber-covered pestle (or soil mill) suitable for breaking up the aggregation of solid particles without

reducing the size of the individual grains?.....

NOTE: a hand operated rubber-covered pestle may be suitable.

COMMENTS