

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**Scourable branding substances  
for greasy wool**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee TX/12, Testing of Wool. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 16 July 1992 and published on 12 October 1992.

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The following interests are represented on Committee TX/12:

Australian Council of Wool Exporters  
Australian Wool Corporation  
Department of Defence  
Division of Wool Technology, CSIRO  
National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia  
National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia  
University of New South Wales  
Wool Council of Australia  
Wool Scourers and Carbonizers Association of Australia  
Wool Textile Manufacturers of Australia  
Testing interests

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Testing of Wool.

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## FOREWORD

Branding substances should satisfy a number of criteria. The one addressed by this Standard is that they should be removed from the wool during subsequent scouring. Branding substances which are not removed during early stage processing are potentially a source of coloured fibre contamination in the finished product. Appendix A of this Standard describes a procedure for determining the scourability of branding substances applied to greasy wool.

Extensive trials indicate that the laboratory test for scourability may, in some cases, be influenced by the total grease level of the fibre substrate, by the amount of branding substance applied and the scouring treatments. Scouring efficiency is influenced by the liquor ratio, the type of detergent used, the treatment temperature and also the percentage of branded fibre in the test specimen. For this laboratory test the branded fibre component is estimated to be approximately five percent of the mass of test specimen. Although these factors cannot be controlled rigidly in practice, the test procedure outlined in this Standard indicates substances which would be removed in the typical mill and tannery scouring processes.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

## Scourable branding substances for greasy wool

**1 SCOPE** This Standard sets out the performance and minimum labelling requirements for branding substances classed as scourable when applied to greasy wool.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2001 Methods of test for textiles

2001.1 Part 1: Conditioning procedures

2001.3.4 Method 3.4: Chemical tests—Determination of solvent-soluble matter

2001.4.1 Method 4.1: Colourfastness tests—Definitions and general requirements

3546 Wool—Method for the measurement of average yellowness of greasy wool

ISO

105 Textiles—Tests for colour fastness

105-A04 Part A04: Method for the instrumental assessment of the degree of staining of adjacent fabrics

**3 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**3.1 Greasy wool**—unprocessed wool from sheep or wool shorn from sheepskins.

**3.2 Branding substances**—various coloured (pigmented) products, including liquids, sprays, crayons and chalks, used to mark sheep for identification purposes by application to the wool fibre surface.

**3.3 Staining scale rating (SSR)**—the calculated rating obtained from the colour difference between test and reference specimens. The ratings range from 1 (excessive staining) to 5 (no staining).

**4 REQUIREMENTS** A branding substance shall be considered scourable if, when tested in accordance with the test method given in Appendix A, it achieves pass results for both scouring treatments at high temperature (HT) and low temperature (LT) specified in Table A1 of Appendix A.

**5 LABELLING** Each package or container of a substance which has complied with the requirements of this Standard shall be labelled clearly and legibly with the following:

- (a) The number of this Australian Standard, i.e. AS 4054.
- (b) The manufacturer's name or trademark.
- (c) The batch number and date of manufacture.
- (d) Clear directions for use and warnings against misuse, as appropriate. In particular the following information should be included:
  - (i) If the product is a spray, the appropriate distance and time to be used to avoid excessive application, e.g. 100-150 mm and less than 1 s.
  - (ii) If the product is a spray, 'The Australian Wool Corporation Code of Practice for Preparation of Australian Woolclips states that the use of this product must be confined to the head of the animal'.
  - (iii) For all products, 'Excessive application levels are to be avoided as they may result in discolouration after scouring'.
  - (iv) If the product is a liquid, 'Liquid must not be rediluted with solvents as this practice will cause the brand to become non-scourable'.

NOTE: Manufacturers making a statement of compliance with this Australian Standard on a product, packaging, or promotional material related to that product are advised to ensure that such compliance is capable of being verified.