INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 5432

Third edition
2022-11

Leather — Wet blue sheep skins — Specification

Cuir — Peaux d'ovins à l'état «bleu humide» — Spécifications

Reference number
ISO 5432:2022(E)

4 Requirements

4.1 Raw material

Wet blue sheep skins shall be processed from cured or fresh sheep skins.

4.2 Tanning

After pretanning operations, the skins shall be tanned with basic chromium sulfate as the primary tanning agent. The cut cross-section shall be such that the skin is completely penetrated by the bluish colour of the chromium sulfate when examined visually. Tanning shall be completed at a pH of 3,0 or above.

4.3 Fungicidal additives

Fungicides shall be used to inhibit mould growths in the wet blue sheep skins.

Fungicides used to inhibit mould growth and pigmentation in wet blue sheep skins should be effective and should not cause a health hazard. The types of fungicide used and their dosage should be as agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier

Fungicides should preferably be applied in quantities appropriate to ensure storage for up to 4 months at the temperature and humidity prevailing during storage or transportation.

4.4 Presentation

Wet blue sheep skins shall have clean flesh side and the grain side shall be free from wool. The size and grading shall be as agreed between the interested parties.

Wet blue sheep skins should have a tight grain and be free from creases, drum folds and stains caused by iron salts. At least 95 % of the number of pieces in a lot should be free from stains caused by chromium salts, and the aggregate of the stained area in any one piece should not exceed 10 % of the total area of the piece.

4.5 Shrinkage temperature

The shrinkage temperature shall not be less than 95 °C when determined using the method specified in ISO 3380.

4.6 Chemical requirements

Wet blue sheep skins shall conform with the requirements given in Table 1. The sample should be cut into small pieces without conditioning in accordance with ISO 4044.

Table 1 — Chemical requirements

Characteristic	Requirement
Volatile matter	>50 % of dry mass of leather or as otherwise agreed between the interested parties
Matter soluble in dichloromethane	<4 % of dry mass of leather or as agreed between the interested parties
pH of water extract	≥3,2
Chromic oxide content	≥3,0 % of dry mass of leather
A minimum shrinkage temperature of 95 °C normally needs a minimum chromic oxide content of 3,0 % relative to the dry mass, as determined by the method given by ISO 5398-1. Once the chromic oxide content has been determined in this way, it can be used to estimate how much more chromic oxide has to be added to achieve the desired level (i.e. the extent of further rechroming). NOTE Regulations on chemical substances can differ from country to country.	

5 Sampling

5.1 Sampling for routine testing

The number and location of samples taken for routine testing shall be as agreed between the interested parties.

5.2 Sampling in cases of dispute

The number of samples shall be as given in Table 2 and the location shall be as specified in ISO 2418.

Table 2 — Number of samples to be taken in cases of dispute

Number of skins	Number of samples
Up to 100	3
101 to 300	4
301 to 500	5
501 to 700	6
701 and over	7

5.3 Preparation of samples

Prepare samples by wiping off excess water and keeping wrapped in filter paper for 30 min without applying any extra pressure.

6 Method of testing

6.1 Visual tests

Examine the wet blue sheep skins for uniformity of colour of the surface, penetration of chromium sulfate, absence of wool and cleanness of the flesh side.

6.2 Shrinkage temperature

Determine the shrinkage temperature by the method specified in ISO 3380.