



CONCEPT LIFE SCIENCES

METHOD STATEMENT ORGANIC MATTER (DICHROMATE)

INTRODUCTION

Note: This method is not UKAS accredited

The analytical procedure described herein outlines the determination of organic matter in soils.

PRINCIPLE

Organic matter is determined by rapid dichromate oxidation of soil samples followed by manual titration.

A known aliquot of dried and ground sample is oxidised with potassium dichromate and sulphuric acid, mixed gently and left for at least 1 hour. The sample is diluted to 200 ml and phosphoric acid and barium diphenylaminesulphonate indicator are added.

The extract is titrated with ferrous ammonium sulphate and organic matter calculated.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

SUBSTANCES DETERMINED

Organic matter.

RANGE OF APPLICATION

- Soil samples 0.1 to 100 %

LIMIT OF DETECTION

- Soil samples 0.1 %.

REFERENCES

- Methods for the Determination of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) in Soils and Sediments, NCEA-C- 1282 EMASC-001 April 2002, United States Environmental Protection Agency