Indian Standard SPECIFICATION FOR COMB FOUNDATION SHEETS (First Revision)

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INDIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTION MANAK BHAVAN, 9 BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG NEW DELHI 110002

Indian Standard SPECIFICATION FOR COMB FOUNDATION SHEETS

(First Revision)

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Indian Standard SPECIFICATION FOR COMB FOUNDATION SHEETS

(First Revision)

O. FOREWORD

- 0.1 This Indian Standard (First Revision) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 18 February 1977, after the draft finalized by the Apiary Industry Sectional Committee had been approved by the Agricultural and Food Products Division Council.
- 0.2 Comb foundation sheets are made of pure beeswax embossed with the bases and the beginning of the cell walls and cells of comb of the honey-bee. These sheets form the base midrib or foundation of the honey comb without the superstructure of the cells. They are inserted in the frames, which are placed in beehives, on which the honey-bees complete their combs.
- 0.3 This standard was first published in 1962. In the first revision; (a) the mass of comb foundation sheets has been changed; (b) quality of cell embossings has been defined; and (c) Amendment No. 1 has been incorporated.
- 0.4 For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test or analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS:2-1960*. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value should be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard prescribes the material, sizes and other requirements for comb foundation sheets made of beeswax.

2. TERMINOLOGY

- 2.0 For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions shall apply.
- 2.1 Brood Frame A frame made up of a top bar, a bottom bar and two side bars in which the brood is reared.

^{*}Rules for rounding off numerical values (revised).

- 2.2 Frame A frame of wood to hold a comb [the frames are so constructed that a series of them may be placed in a vertical position in the brood chamber or the super chamber so as to leave space (bee space) in between them for bees to move].
- 2.3 Super Frame A frame which has a depth less than that of the brood frame and in which surplus honey is stored.

3. MATERIAL

3.1 The comb foundation sheets shall be made from beeswax (*see* IS:1504-1974*).

4. COMB FOUNDATION SHEETS FOR BROOD AND SUPER FRAMES

4.1 The comb foundation sheets meant to provide a base in brood and super frames of a beehive (see IS:1515-1967†) shall be obtained by dipping plain wooden board in pure molten beeswax and then embossing the plain wax sheets so obtained with cells.

5. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

5.1 The size of the cells of the comb foundation sheets meant for use in different regions shall be as given in Table 1.

TABLE 1 SIZ	E OF THE	CELLS	OF COMB	FOUNDATION	SHEETS
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SL No.	Region	Number of Cells	Length mm
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
i)	Higher himalayan regions	10	49
ii)	Sub himalayan regions	10	47
iii)	Central India	10	45
iv)	South India	10	43

^{5.2} The mass of a comb foundation sheet per 100 cm² shall be between 6 and 7 g.

5.3 The cell embossings shall be deep and their sides shall have clear and raised edges.

^{*}Specification for beeswax (second revision).

[†]Specification for beehives (first revision).

6. SAMPLING

6.1 The method for drawing representative samples of the sheets and criteria for conformity shall be as prescribed in Appendix A.

7. PACKING AND MARKING

- 7.1 Packing Unless otherwise agreed to between the purchaser and the supplier, the comb foundation sheets 5, 10, 25, 50 or 100 in number shall be wrapped in grease-proof paper of a suitable plastic sheet and like polyethylene and packed in a suitable container. Each sheet shall be separated by a cellophane or trace paper to avoid sticking. The sheets should be stored in a clean place so as to avoid any possible contamination by insecticides and chemicals toxic to the honey-bees.
- **7.2** Marking Each container shall be suitably marked with the following information:
 - a) Name of the material;
 - b) Name of the manufacturer, or dealer;
 - c) Batch or code number; and
 - d) Net mass in g.
 - 7.2.1 Each container may also be marked with the ISI Certification Mark.

Note — The use of the ISI Certification Mark is governed by the provisions of the Indian Standards Institution (Certification Marks) Act and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder. The ISI mark on products covered by an Indian Standard conveys the assurance that they have been produced to comply with the requirements of that standard under a well-defined system of inspection, testing and quality control which is devised and supervised by ISI and operated by the producer. ISI marked products are also continuously checked by ISI for conformity to that standard as a further safeguard. Details of conditions under which a licence for the use of the ISI Certification Mark may be granted to manufacturers or processors, may be obtained from the Indian Standards Institution.

APPENDIX A

(Clause 6.1)

SAMPLING OF COMB FOUNDATION SHEETS

A-1. PRECAUTION IN SAMPLING

- A-1.1 In drawing, storing and handling samples, the following precautions and directions shall be observed:
 - a) While drawing samples, care shall be taken to handle the sheets gently so as to avoid breaking and spoiling the cell-structure.

- b) Samples shall be kept in a clean place so as to avoid any possible contamination.
- c) Samples shall be stored in air-tight wooden box and kept in a cool and dry place. The conditions of storage shall be such that they do not unduly affect the quality of the material.

A-2. SCALE OF SAMPLING

- A-2.1 Lot In any consignment, all the containers of the same size and from the same batch of manufacture shall constitute a lot.
- A-2.1.1 Samples shall be tested for each lot for ascertaining conformity of the material to the requirements of this specification.
- A-2.2 The number of containers to be selected from a lot shall depend on the size of the lot and shall be in accordance with col 1 and 2 of Table 2.
- A-2.3 The containers to be selected for sampling shall be chosen at random from the lot and for this purpose random number tables shall be used. In case such tables are not available the following procedure may be adopted.

Starting from any container, count them as 1, 2, 3, etc, up to r and so on in a systematic manner. Every rth container thus counted shall be withdrawn; r being the integral part of N/n where N is the total number of containers in the lot, and n the number of containers to be selected.

TABLE 2 NUMBER OF CONTAINERS TO BE SELECTED FOR SAMPLING

(Clause A-2.3)

LOT SIZE	Number of Containers to be Selected
(N)	(n)
2 to 15	2
16 ,, 40	3
41 ,, 65	4
66 ,, 110	5
111 ,, 250	7
251 and over	10

A-2.4 Test Samples — From each of the containers selected as in A-2.2, draw at random, one comb foundation sheet for containers of size less than 25 and two comb foundation sheets for containers of size greater than 25. Each sheet shall constitute a test sample.

A-3. NUMBER OF TESTS

A-3.1 Tests for the determination of various characteristics, as specified in 4 and 5 shall be made on each of the test samples (see A-2.4).

A-4. CRITERION FOR CONFORMITY

A-4.1 A lot shall be considered as conforming to this specification if each of the test results satisfied the corresponding requirements as specified in 4 and 5.

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1504-1974 Commercial beeswax (second revision)

1515-1969 Beehives (first revision)

1735-1960 Hive stands

1736-1960 Honey extractor, tangential type

3891-1974 Layout for honey processing plant (first revision)

3894-1966 Comb foundation mill

4941-1974 Extracted honey (first revision)

5426-1969 Travelling bees box

5427-1969 Honey extractor, radial type

6695-1972 Code for conservation and maintenance of honey bees

7459-1974 Wasp trap

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