

# METHODS FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF ORGANIC MATTER

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# SRI LANKA STANDARD METHODS FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF ORGANIC MATTER

## FOREWORD

This Sri Lanka Standard has been prepared by the Drafting Committee on Chemical Test Methods. It was approved by the Agricultural & Chemicals Divisional Committee of the Bureau of Ceylon Standards and was authorised for adoption and publication by the Council of the Bureau on 5th December 1973.

In the preparation of this standard the assistance derived from the following publications is acknowledged:

- (i) Pearson, David. Chemical analysis of food. J. A. Churchill, London. 6th ed. 1970.
- (ii) Garrat, D. C. Quantitative analysis of drugs. Chapman & Hall, London. 3rd ed. 1964.
- (iii) Middleton, G. & Stuckey, R. E. The destruction of organic matter. *Analyst* vol 79. p 137. 1954.

## 1. SCOPE

This standard prescribes methods for the destruction of organic matter for the purpose of preparing test solutions for analysis.

## 2. METHODS

**2.1 Dry ashing** — Weigh accurately a suitable quantity of the well mixed sample in a tared platinum or silica dish. Heat the dish cautiously with a low flame until the material begins to char. It is possible to regulate charring by placing the flame at one side of