



DRAFT EAST AFRICAN STANDARD

Potable spirit — Specification

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

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East African Community

P.O.Box 1096

Arusha

Tanzania

Tel: 255 27 2504253/8

Fax: 255 27 2504481/2504255

E-mail: eac@eachq.org

Web: www.eac-quality.net

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Foreword

Development of the East African Standards has been necessitated by the need for harmonizing requirements governing quality of products and services in the East African Community. It is envisaged that through harmonized standardization, trade barriers that are encountered when goods and services are exchanged within the Community will be removed.

In order to achieve this objective, the Community established an East African Standards Committee mandated to develop and issue East African Standards.

The Committee is composed of representatives of the National Standards Bodies in Partner States, together with the representatives from the private sectors and consumer organizations. Draft East African Standards are circulated to stakeholders through the National Standards Bodies in the Partner States. The comments received are discussed and incorporated before finalization of standards, in accordance with the procedures of the Community.

East African Standards are subject to review, to keep pace with technological advances. Users of the East African Standards are therefore expected to ensure that they always have the latest versions of the standards they are implementing.

EAS 109 was prepared by Technical Committee EASC/TC 007, *Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition EAS 109:2014, which has been technically revised.

Potable spirit — Specification

1 Scope

This Draft East African Standard specifies requirements, sampling and test methods for potable spirits.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

CAC/GL 66, *Guidelines for the use of flavourings*

CODEX STAN 192, *Codex general standard for food additives*

EAS 38, *Labelling of pre-packaged foods — Specification*

EAS 39, *Hygiene in the food and drink manufacturing industry — Code of practice*

EAS 104, *Alcoholic beverages — Methods of sampling and testing*

EAS 123, *Distilled water — Specification*

EAS 144, *Neutral spirit — Specification*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

potable spirit

ethyl alcohol product obtained by distilling fermented carbohydrate material or mixing neutral spirit with Potable water in proportions suitable for human consumption with or without flavour

3.2

alcohol

as ethyl alcohol (C₂H₅OH)

3.3 neutral spirit
distillate obtained from fermented carbohydrate material, purified by fractional distillation with the removal of fusel oil and furfural

4 Requirements

4.1 Ingredients

- 4.1.1** The ingredients for potable spirit shall include the following:
- a) demineralised water or distilled water conforming to EAS 123; and
 - b) neutral spirit, if used for blending, conforming to EAS 144.

4.2 General requirements

- 4.2.1** Potable spirit shall:
- a) possess the characteristic aroma associated with the product and free of foreign odour;;
 - b) be clear and free of particulate matter;
 - c) have characteristic taste and free of foreign taste.

4.2.2 Flavouring agents, if used, shall comply with CAC/GL 66.

4.3 Specific requirements

Potable spirit shall comply with the specific requirements given in Table 1 when tested in accordance with the test methods specified therein.

Table 1 — Specific requirements for potable spirit

S/No	Characteristic	Requirement	Test method
i)	Alcohol, % v/v at 20 °C, min.	35	EAS 104
ii)	Volatile acidity, as acetic acid, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	0.05	
iii)	Aldehydes, as acetaldehyde, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	0.25	
iv)	Methanol content, g/L, max.	0.1	
v)	Higher alcohol (fusel oil), as amyl alcohol, g/L of absolute alcohol, max.	0.03 [3]	

5 Food additives

Food additives when used in the preparation of potable spirit shall comply with CODEX STAN 192.

6 Hygiene

Potable spirit shall be manufactured and handled in a hygienic manner in accordance with EAS 39.

7 Packaging

Potable spirit for retail and bulk delivery shall be packaged in suitable food grade containers that safeguard its quality and safety.

8 Labelling

In addition to the labelling requirements of EAS 38, potable spirit shall be legibly and indelibly labelled with the following information:

- a) name of the product as 'Potable spirit';
- b) name and physical address of manufacturer/importer/bottler;
- c) ethyl alcohol content, percent by volume;
- d) net content;
- e) date of manufacture;
- f) batch identification number/code;
- g) country of origin; and
- h) statutory warnings.

9 Sampling

Sampling shall be done in accordance with EAS 104.

Bibliography

ES 8M 3 -250 -1974, *Spirits — Specification*

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