**DRAFT TANZANIA STANDARD**

 **Slow-release fertilizers — Determination of the release of the nutrients — Method for coated fertilizers**

 **TANZANIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS**

**NATIONAL FOREWORD**

The Tanzania Bureau of Standards is the statutory national standards body for Tanzania, formally established by the Act.No.3 of 1975, which was amended and repealed by Act.No.2 of 2009.

The Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Technical Committee, under the supervision of the Agriculture and Food Standards Divisional Committee (AFDC 10), has prepared this Tanzania Standard.

It is identical ISO 21263:2016 Slow-release fertilizers — Determination of the release of the nutrients — Method for coated fertilizers**,** published by International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

**TERMINOLOGY AND CONVENTIONS**

The text of the International standard is hereby being recommended for approval without deviation for publication as Tanzania standard.

Some terminologies and certain conventions are not identical with those used in Tanzania standards; attention is drawn especially to the following: -

1) The comma has been used as a decimal marker for metric dimensions. In Tanzania Standards, it is current practice to use “full point” on the baseline as the decimal marker.

2) Where the words “International Standard(s)” appear, referring to this standard they should read “Tanzania Standard(s)”.

**SCOPE**

This document specifies a method for the determination of the slow release properties of nutrients from coated fertilizers. pH-dependent hydrolysis and degradation by biological or microbial mechanisms are excluded.

The specified method is only applicable to products releasing any nutrients by means of a non-biological process (i.e. those where the nutrients are released by a physical mechanism). Microbial attack on the coating (e.g. sulfur coated fertilizers) and the consequences thereof are not measurable by the technique described