

SPECIFICATION LIMITS FOR BLOOM (REPRODUCIBILITY OF BLOOM TESTING METHOD)

The Bloom test method for the determination of gel strength of gelatins is an empirical method that can not be traced back to an international standard as can be done, for example, for the measurement of viscosity.

Collaborative studies (ringtests) are therefore essential to obtain information on the accuracy of the procedure.

This is the reason that the gelatin industry has carried out ringtests for more than 10 years on a regular basis.

The statistical evaluation of these ringtests gives an average relative standard deviation of 2.0%.

Thus, for a relative standard deviation of 2 %, the specification limits for Bloom (between gelatin manufacturer and customer) for a specific grade of gelatin should not fall below $\pm 3 \times 2 \%$ from the specified value.

Examples:	Bloom	100 g	specification limit	± 6 g
		200 g		± 12 g
		300 g		± 18 g

The standard gelatins used in the ringtest could be used as a source of certified reference material. Samples of these gelatins are available from the gelatin manufacturers.

Validity period: until 31 December 2017