

6. Fish meal: specifications and product requirement

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Specifications of fish meal

Specifications of different grades of fish meal are given in the following table (IS4307-1983);

	Grade I	Grade II	Lot 800 Bags	Lot 1200 Bags
Moisture (% max.)	10	10	6.8	7.1
Crude protein (% min.)	60	50	60.83	61.37
Ammoniacal nitrogen (% max.)	0.5	0.5	-	-
Crude fat (% max.)	10	10	7.03	7.55
Acid insoluble ash (% max.)	3	3	5.10	5.20
Chloride (as NaCl) (% max.)	4	5	0.32	0.23

As per the East African Standards specifications of fish meal (EAS97:1999) are;

Moisture (% max.)	10
Crude protein (% min.)	60
Ammoniacal nitrogen (% max.)	0.5
Crude fat (% max.)	10
Acid insoluble ash (% max.)	3
Total ash (% max.)	20
Calcium (% min.)	2
Phosphorus (% min)	1.5
Chloride (as NaCl) (% max.)	3

BHA and BHT (permissible levels in antioxidant treated fish meal) (ppm)	200
Ethoxyquin (permissible levels in antioxidant treated fish meal) (ppm)	150

Product requirement

- ✓ Fish meal shall be in the form of powder ground to such fineness that 99% of material shall pass through 2.80 mm IS sieve
- ✓ The material shall have the characteristics odor and shall be free from any off odour indicative of spoilage
- ✓ The material shall be free from adulterants, arthropod infestation, visible fungal growth and any harmful material
- ✓ The material shall be free from salmonella
- ✓ Fish meal shall be packed in high density polyethylene bags or jute bags with polyethylene. Fishmeal shall be packed in clean polypropylene bags or other suitable container lined with polythene which are of sufficient strength and shall be properly sealed so as to withstand reasonable handling without tearing or bursting or falling open.

Labelling requirements

- ✓ Each bag or container shall be clearly marked and labelled to display the following information:
 - i. Name of product
 - ii. Name and address of manufacturer
 - iii. Date of manufacture and the words “best before (date)”
 - iv. Net mass (metric units)