

**Report
N° 1123-BS-1480-1**

**DETERMINATION OF STABLE ISOTOPES AND BIO-BASED
CARBON CONTENT USING EA-IRMS AND RADIOCARBON
ASTM D6866-22 (Method B)**

**By association from the
material producer,
commissioned by :**

Eli-Chem Resins Ltd

December 7, 2023

SAMPLE

Sampling was done by the customer. The results only apply to the sample as received.

CIRAM code	CBIO-2144
Name of the sample ¹	Under private label as BioCast
Customer sample number ¹	1
Batch number ¹	nc
Date of reception item	11/20/2023
Non-conformity at arrival	none

ANALYSIS

CIRAM code	CBIO-2144
Customer sample number	1
Methods of analysis	EA-IRMS (MO 6.4-02), Graphitization (MO 6.4-03), AMS (ASTM D6866-22 Method B (AMS))
Date of EA – IRMS – Graphitization	11/28/2023
Date of AMS	12/06/2023
Done by	SC / MG / OD / ZE
Special conditions	SO
$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰) ²	undetected
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰) ²	-31.73 ± 0.13
Percentage of Modern Carbon (pMC) ³	31.36 ± 0.17
% of biobased carbon as a fraction of total carbon⁴	31%

¹ Information supplied by the customer. CIRAM is not responsible about this information.

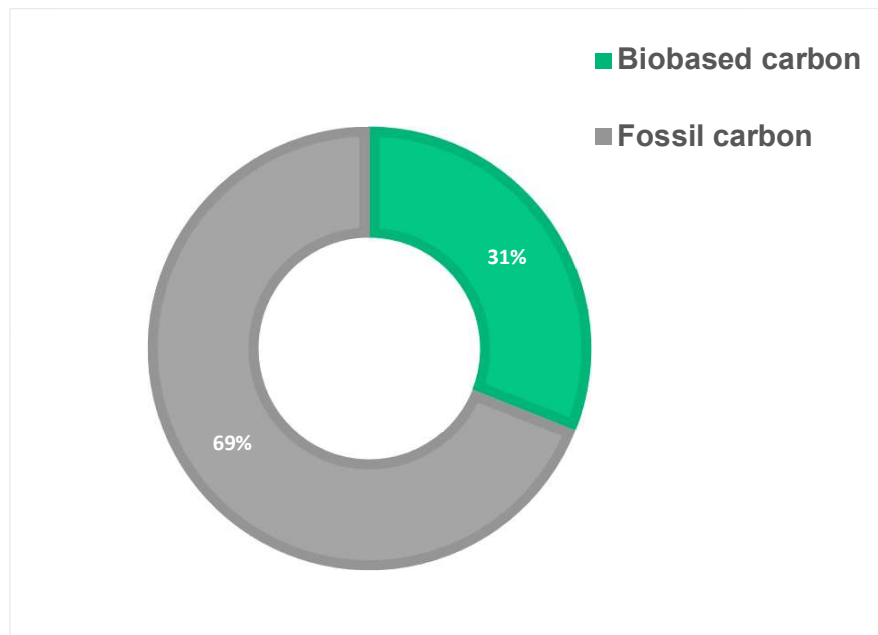
² Uncertainty at 2σ is 0.26‰ for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and 0.61‰ for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$. The value after "±" corresponds to the standard deviation of replicates.

³ Radiocarbon analysis are partly carried out in joint-venture with a European accredited lab ISO 17025 (JSC «Barnas» LA.210-01).

⁴ The standard ASTM D6866-22 indicates that the radiocarbon measure can suffer a deviation of ± 3%.

SUMMARY

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Authorized by :

Dr Olivier Bobin
Scientific Director

EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

The study presented here takes place in the context of quantification of the bio-based carbon and the fossil carbon into industrial production. The purpose of the methodology described below is to quantify the percentage of biobased (derived from biomass) versus petrochemical (fossil carbon) carbon, based on the measure of the carbon and nitrogen.

The Modern Carbon is the contemporary carbon present today in the atmosphere and in the biomass. The radiocarbon measurement is expressed as part of Modern Carbon (pMC). This corresponds to the percentage of radiocarbon (^{14}C) measured in the sample. The percentage of bio-based carbon is calculated on pMC basis, the total carbon content and an atmospheric adjustment factor (REF).

The reference value used for the carbon year adjustment was 100 in 2022 (ASTM D6866-22). This means that a 100 % natural product manufactured in 2022 has a pMC of 100.

The percentage of bio-based carbon corresponds to the percentage of "natural" carbon (derived from biomass) versus "fossil" carbon (derived from petrochemistry). A 100 % bio-based carbon compound is made from 100 % plants and/or animal by-products. A 0 % bio-based carbon compound corresponds to a product entirely of fossil origin, which does not contain any carbon from plant and/or animal by-products. Therefore, a value between 0 and 100 % confirms a mixture of bio-based and fossil carbon, indicating the percentage of bio-based carbon in the total carbon.

The sample is combusted at a temperature of 920°C and is transformed into gas. During this first step, a measure of % C and N is performed using an elemental analyser (Elementar Vario ISOTOPE Select). The EA allows separation of combustion gases and also removal of water. Residual carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the EA outlet is absorbed in the zeolite trap of an AGE automated graphitization system (AGE 3, Ion Plus) and then released to the given reactor to be transformed into graphite by catalysis. Meanwhile $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ ratio (expressed as $\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and $^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$ (expressed as $\delta^{15}\text{N}$) were measured using a mass spectrometer dedicated to stable isotopic ratio (IRMS, Elementar Isoprime precisION). The different carbon isotopes were separated using a 250 kV accelerator mass spectrometer in joint venture with JSC Barnas (ISO 17025 and ISO 14001). ^{14}C content is determined by comparing the simultaneously collected ^{14}C , ^{13}C and ^{12}C beams with those of control products: Oxalic Acid, CO_2 standard, charcoal).

Conventional radiocarbon age is calculated according to the method described by Stuiver and Polach. It takes into account the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ correction for isotopic fractionation, based on the comparison between the concentration measurements of $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ and $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$. This factor enables the control of potential pollution and further evaluate the reliability of the measure, it is a good indicator of the quality of the sample. The precision on the analytical measure of pMC is 1σ (1 sigma relative standard deviation). International standards NIST 4990C, IAEA-C-7 et IAEA-C-9 were used. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ is expressed per mille (‰) in conformity with international standard V-PDB (Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite). $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ is expressed per mille (‰) in relation to Air. International standards IAEA-600, IAEA-N-2 and BCR-657 were used.

NOTE

The results hereby presented are only applicable for the analyzed samples. Only this full report reproduction is authorized provided that the source is acknowledged. This report can not be partially reproduced or used without written approbation of CIRAM.

All traceability elements including measure uncertainty are available on request. For any subcontracted results supplied by accredited laboratories, measures are also available.

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