



F A R M - T E C

FALLING TIME MACHINE



Definition according to ISO

Falling time – “total time in seconds, from immersing the viscometric tube in boiling water, necessary for the relevant action of viscometric stirrer and then enabling it to go down to the earlier defined point in a gruel prepared from water and flour or from the whole ground cereal product put in a viscometric tube and undergoing liquefaction”

Falling time of cereal and their products is an index of the enzyme alpha amylase activity, which in grain correctly ripened and collected under dry conditions, occurs in negligible amounts.

However, under unfavourable atmospheric conditions when the moisture level of cereal is higher than 15% the enzyme becomes activated. In consequence, it causes dramatic damage to starch kernels. Dough prepared from such flour has unfavourable physico-chemical properties not granting good quality bread baking.

Therefore, knowledge of the degree of impairment of cereals and their products allows their correct qualification for use, for instance:

- for animal feed purposes,
- for making mixtures, that is impaired cereal with cereal not damaged by alpha amylase
- working out individual technological processes with “improvers” to avoid unexpected losses

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