

Standard Test Method for Measuring Asperity Height of Textured Geomembranes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7466/D7466M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

 ϵ^1 NOTE—Designation was changed to dual and units information was corrected editorially in June 2015.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a procedure to measure the asperity height of textured geomembranes.

1.2 This test method does not provide for measurement of the spacing between the asperities nor of the complete profile of the textured surface.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 ASTM Standards:²
- D4439 Terminology for Geosynthetics
- D5994/D5994M Test Method for Measuring Core Thickness of Textured Geomembranes
- E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods
- E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method
- E2554 Practice for Estimating and Monitoring the Uncertainty of Test Results of a Test Method Using Control Chart Techniques

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of other terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology D4439.

3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *asperity*, *n*—the individual projections of polyethylene that extend above the core surface of a textured geomembrane resulting in the textured surface profile.

3.2.2 *core thickness, n*—the average thickness of a textured geomembrane as measured using Test Method D5994/D5994M.

3.2.3 *geomembrane*, *n*—an essentially impermeable geosynthetic composed of one or more synthetic sheets. **D4439**

3.2.4 *setting block, n*—the component part of a depth gauge that rests on top of the asperities.

3.2.5 *thickness, n*— the perpendicular distance between one surface and its opposite.

3.2.6 *thickness gauge contact point, n*—the tip of a thickness gauge which contacts the base sheet of the geomembrane surface.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The asperity height of a textured geomembrane is measured with a depth gauge, the setting block of which rests on the top of the asperities while the contact point extends to the sheet's core surface.

4.2 The asperity height of a textured geomembrane is calculated as the average value of ten (10) individual measurements taken across the roll width of the sample under investigation.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The asperity height is an index property used to quantify one of the physical attributes related to the surface roughness of textured geomembranes.

5.2 This test method is applicable to all currently available textured geomembranes that are deployed as manufactured geomembrane sheets.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D35 on Geosynthetics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D35.10 on Geomembranes.

Current edition approved May 1, 2015. Published June 2015. Originally approved in 2008. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as D7466-10. DOI: 10.1520/D7466_D7466M-10R15E01.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

∰ D7466/D7466M – 10 (2015)^{ε1}

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Depth Gauge*—The depth gauge shall consist of three components that conform the requirements of this section; a dial indicator, a setting block and a contact point with extension.

6.1.1 *Dial Indicator*—capable of measuring to depth of at least 2.5 mm [0.10 in.] with an accuracy of ± 0.025 mm [0.001 in.].

6.1.2 *Setting Block*—the setting block shall have a base dimension of 50 mm to 63.5 mm long by 20 mm to 12.7 mm wide [2.0 in. to 2.5 in. long by 0.75 in. to 0.50 in. wide] and a height of 15 mm [0.60 in.].

6.1.3 *Contact Point with Extension*—The contact point is 1.3 mm [0.051 in.] in diameter with the tip tapered to a point. An extension of approximately 17 mm [0.66 in.] is required to achieve the necessary travel beyond the base surface of the setting block. The contact point should protrude at least 10 mm below the setting block when not in use in order to ensure that a competent "zero" setting is achieved. See Figs. 1-3.

6.1.4 The mass of the depth gauge fully assembled with the dial indicator, setting block, contact point with extension should not exceed 300 g.

7. Sampling

7.1 *Sample*—For the sample, take a full width sample at least 75-mm [3-in.] wide. Exclude the inner and outer wraps of the roll or any material not representative of the sample. Either the entire strip may be tested or individual test specimens may be taken from this sample, with a minimum diameter of 75 mm [3 in.], spaced such that a total of ten (10) asperity height determinations will be made approximately evenly across the sample.

7.2 *Sample Labeling*—For textured geomembrane samples that are textured on both sides, identify one surface as "Side A" and the other as "Side B". Side A should correspond to the outside surface of the product when on the parent roll, and Side B the inside surface whenever this relationship is known.







8. Conditioning and Testing

8.1 Bring the specimens to temperature equilibrium at $21 \pm 2^{\circ}$ C [70 $\pm 4^{\circ}$ F] and at a relative humidity of 60 $\pm 10 \%$.

9. Procedure

9.1 Test the conditioned specimens in the standard laboratory atmosphere specified in 8.1.

9.2 Place the depth gauge on a flat, rigid supporting surface to zero the contact point with the bottom of the setting block.

9.3 Place the geomembrane specimen being tested on a flat, rigid, supporting surface being vigilant to keep the specimen flat for the measurements. For two side textured geomembranes, measure the asperity height of Side A first.

9.4 Place the depth gauge on the surface of the textured geomembrane specimen, with the long axis of the setting block perpendicular to the machine direction of the roll. Do not to apply downward hand pressure on the gauge as this would compress the asperities under the setting block. Allow the contact point to come into contact with the "low spots" or "valleys," in between the asperities, or into the indentations, of the textured surface(s). Move the depth gauge slightly on the test specimen to obtain the local maximum reading. Repeat the above within a search radius of approximately 12 mm [0.5 in.] so that a total of three observations are obtained. Record the highest value of the three observations to the nearest 0.025 mm or 0.001 in. as the asperity height determination.

Note 1—Be vigilant not to drag the extended contact point while moving the depth gauge laterally across the sample between determinations as this can result in damage to the contact point.

NOTE 2—The parent standard for this procedure, GRI GM-12, originally specified that the local highest asperity measurement is taken for each asperity height determination. This is consistent with procedure for determining the thickness of a textured geomembrane in accordance with ∰ D7466/D7466M – 10 (2015)^{ε1}

Test Method D5994/D5994M, which specifies that the individual thickness determinations are taken where the "low spots" or "valleys" are the deepest.

9.5 Repeat 9.4 above at the next position,

9.6 Repeat 9.3 through 9.5 on Side B for two side textured geomembrane samples.

10. Calculation

10.1 Calculate the average asperity height of the sample (the test result) from the ten (10) individual asperity height determinations and record to the nearest 0.025 mm or 0.001 in.

11. Report

11.1 The report shall include the following:

11.1.1 Project, type of geomembrane tested, and method of sampling.

11.1.2 Name or description of depth gauge used for testing.11.1.3 Number of specimens.

11.1.4 Individual asperity height determinations to the nearest 0.025 mm or 0.001 in.

11.1.5 Average asperity height to the nearest 0.025 mm or 0.001 in.

11.1.6 Coefficient of variation of the individual measurements of the sample, in percent (optional).

11.1.7 Any unusual or out-of-standard conditions or observations made during the tests.

12. Precision and Bias³

12.1 *Precision*—The precision of this test method is based on an interlaboratory study of this test method conducted in 2007. Each of eight laboratories tested five different materials (four for "Side A"). Every test result represents an individual determination, and three sample separate laboratory-day determinations were taken in triplicate for each material tested. One laboratory recorded just one lab-day measurement in triplicate for each material. The standard units for the core thickness test results are 0.001 in. or "mils." Practice E691 was followed for the design and analysis of the data; the details are given in ASTM Research Report RR:D35-1012.

Average test value	30.7 mils
Test range (reported)	21.6 to 49.7 mils
95% repeatability limit (within	2.3 mils
laboratory)	
95% reproducibility limit (between	5.4 mils
laboratories)	

³ Supporting data have been filed at ASTM International Headquarters and may be obtained by requesting Research Report RR:D35-1012.

12.1.1 *Repeatability Limit (r)*—Two test results obtained within one laboratory shall be judged not equivalent if they differ by more than the "r" value for that material; "r" is the interval representing the critical difference between two test results for the same material, obtained by the same operator using the same equipment on the same day in the same laboratory.

12.1.1.1 A breakdown of the repeatability limits for "Side A" and "Side B" are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

12.1.2 *Reproducibility Limit (R)*—Two test results shall be judged not equivalent if they differ by more than the "R" value for that material; "R" is the interval representing the critical difference between two test results for the same material, obtained by different operators using different equipment in different laboratories.

12.1.2.1 A breakdown of the reproducibility limits for "Side A" and "Side B" are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

12.1.3 The terms "repeatability limit" and "reproducibility limit" are used as specified in Practice E177.

12.2 Uncertainty—Repeated measurements made on the same three sets of ten test specimens on three different measurement events provided a preliminary estimate of the uncertainty of the test result. The algorithms for these calculations are based on Practice E2554. See Table 3.

12.3 *Bias*—At the time of the study, there was no accepted reference material suitable for determining the bias for this test method, therefore no statement on bias is being made.

12.4 The precision statement was determined through statistical examination of 594 results, from eight laboratories, on five materials. These five samples were described as the following:

B)

13. Keywords

13.1 asperity height; geomembrane; geosynthetics; textured geomembrane; thickness

TABLE 1	Asperity	Height of	Textured	Geomembrane	"Side A" (mils)	
---------	----------	-----------	----------	-------------	-----------------	--

Sample	Average, ^A \overline{x}	Repeatability Standard Deviation, s _r	Reproducibility Standard Deviation, $$\mathbf{s}_{\mathrm{R}}$$	Repeatability Limit, r	Reproducibility Limit, R
1	30.66	0.94	2.03	2.63	5.67
2	34.76	1.00	2.49	2.79	6.97
3	Smooth Side of Single-Side Textured Sample				
4	28.30	0.90	1.85	2.53	5.18
5	30.57	0.46	0.85	1.28	2.39

^A The average of the laboratories' calculated averages.

D7466/D7466M – 10 (2015)^{€1}

Sample	Average, ^A	Repeatability Standard Deviation,	Reproducibility Standard Deviation,	Repeatability Limit,	Reproducibility Limit,
	X	Sr	S _R	r	R
1	26.98	0.94	2.07	2.63	5.80
2	25.10	0.75	1.46	2.10	4.07
3	25.82	0.74	2.19	2.08	6.14
4	30.16	1.21	2.21	3.38	6.18
5	43.15	0.55	2.38	1.54	6.66

TABLE 2 Asperity Height of Textured Geomembrane "Side B" (mils)

^A The average of the laboratories' calculated averages.

TABLE 3 Uncertainty of Asperity Height of Textured Geomembrane Test Results

Sample	Average, \overline{x}	Range of Laboratory Uncertainty Standard Deviations	Average Uncertainty Standard Deviation ${\rm S}_{\rm U}$
1A	30.66	0.30 to 2.68	1.26
1B	26.98	0.89 to 1.77	1.34
2A	34.76	0.37 to 2.52	1.18
2B	25.10	0.57 to 1.15	0.88
3	25.82	0.20 to 1.76	0.92
4A	28.30	0.48 to 1.54	1.12
4B	30.16	0.54 to 1.67	1.28
5A	30.57	0.14 to 0.86	0.49
5B	43.15	0.06 to 0.99	0.55

ASTM International takes no position respecting the validity of any patent rights asserted in connection with any item mentioned in this standard. Users of this standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any such patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, are entirely their own responsibility.

This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical committee and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised, either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision of this standard or for additional standards and should be addressed to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee, which you may attend. If you feel that your comments have not received a fair hearing you should make your views known to the ASTM Committee on Standards, at the address shown below.

This standard is copyrighted by ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, United States. Individual reprints (single or multiple copies) of this standard may be obtained by contacting ASTM at the above address or at 610-832-9585 (phone), 610-832-9555 (fax), or service@astm.org (e-mail); or through the ASTM website (www.astm.org). Permission rights to photocopy the standard may also be secured from the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, Tel: (978) 646-2600; http://www.copyright.com/