

The field of application: tobacco industry, in particular processing of tobacco raw material. A method of quality control of tobacco raw material consists in organoleptic sorting of tobacco bales or piles according to the moisture and dirtiness thereof. The ripeness of tobacco leaves is additionally determined according to colouration thereof, and moisture content and dirtiness are subject to control with the aid of laboratory analyses. According to the bright even colouration of the tobacco leaf plate as a whole with light green or with a small amount of dark green at the base of the plate, determined is a ripe tobacco raw material. According to the availability of dark green, up to 20-50% of the leaf plate, and dim dull colouration of the rest of the plate, determined is an insufficiently ripe raw material. According to the pronounced dark green and brown colours of the plate as a whole, determined is an unripe tobacco raw material. According to less bright colouration of the plate of a tobacco leaf as a whole without dark green or a large amount thereof at the base of the plate only, according to a small amount of bright yellow, red and light brown spots along the plate as a whole determined is a slightly overripe tobacco raw material. According to the availability of brown spots along the leaf plate as a whole, especially noticeable in the apex part of along the medial vein and dim dull colouration, determined is an overripe tobacco raw material.