

Condition and water content of sludge

The outer condition (consistency) of sludge primarily depends on the water content. A rough classification is given with the following table:

Sludge condition	water content in percent:
liquid to pumpable	≥ 85 percent
compact, still formable	65 to 80 percent
crumbly to solid, not greasy	60 to 65 percent
pulpy, greasing, adhesive	40 to 60 percent
scatterable, solid	20 to 40 percent
dusty	5 to 15 percent

Therefore it is obvious, that the term “sludge” doesn’t allow drawing a clear conclusion about the condition of sludge. The term may entirely cover every nuance from liquid to solid.