



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

February 5, 2002

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

EOD- 105
BCD- 18

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

To: All Suppliers of Woven Polypropylene Fabric/Bags Under Foreign Food Assistance Programs Administered By the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development

Farm Service
Agency

Subject: Circular Woven Polypropylene Bag Manufacturer Declaration Sheets

Kansas City
Commodity Office
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City,
Missouri
64141-6205

The enclosed notice to the trade and declaration sheet was not received by certain woven polypropylene (WPP) fabric/bag manufacturers. Therefore, the deadline for the submission of completed declaration sheets to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been extended to March 8, 2002. All tests, except for the Impact Performance Test, must have been performed between December 17, 2001 and March 8, 2002.

All WPP bags supplied for use under foreign food assistance programs must be constructed to meet the applicable contract requirements. This includes the samples which are currently being selected by USDA representatives to verify compliance.

George W. Aldaya
Director

Enclosure





United States
Department of
Agriculture

December 17, 2001

EOD-102
BCD-17

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All authorized suppliers of woven polypropylene (WPP) fabric/bags are required to ensure their fabric/bags are constructed in accordance with the applicable contract specifications. The specifications are outlined in the following commodity and bag purchase announcements:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| KC-P-BAGS-307 Bags | KCBG5 Whole Grains |
| MR17 Milled Rice | PBL7 Peas, Beans & Lentils |
| WFBF1 All Purpose & Bread Flour | BWSF8 Bulgur/SF Bulgur |

The specifications for the construction of WPP fabric/bags are identical under all of the announcements. The enclosed declaration sheet summarizes the specifications and the tests which are reviewed by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to verify that finished bags are properly constructed. All authorized suppliers are required to complete the enclosed declaration sheet and return it to the address listed below by February 8, 2002, if they choose to continue to participate in subject programs. The sheet will be held confidential by USDA.

The results of the last Impact Performance Test performed by each supplier are acceptable. All other tests must be performed between the date of this notice and February 8, 2002. The fabric should be identical in construction as the fabric authorized for use in writing by the Deputy Administrator, Commodity Operations. USDA will select random samples of bags from each supplier and perform testing to verify the results submitted on the declaration sheets. The selection of sample bags will begin immediately. Suppliers should mail their completed declaration sheets to:

USDA/FSA/PDD
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 5755, South Building
Washington, D. C. 20250
Attn: Packaging

George W. Aldaya
Director

Enclosure





**Bag Manufacturer Declaration Sheet
Circular Woven Polypropylene Fabric/Bags**

CONFIDENTIAL

Company Name:	
Address of Production Facility:	Phone Number:

Production Capacity	Number of Looms:	Output per Loom (meters per day):	Average Days of Operation per Week:
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Fabric Style No./Product Code:	ID Marker yarn(s):	ID Marker Location:
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Formula By %:	Polypropylene Resin _____%	Calcium Carbonate _____%
	UV Resin Compound _____%	Color Concentrate _____%
	Other: _____%	

100% U.S. Origin: " Yes " No	100% Virgin Polymer: " Yes " No	Meets FDA Requirements: " Yes " No	Coating: " Yes " No
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Lot ID Method for Traceability:

Warp and Fill Count: [] warp X [] fill	Twisted Yarns: " Yes " No If Yes, Frequency: Every [] warp X [] fill
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Fabric Weight (oz. per sq. yd):	Denier (grams):	Color: " Beige " White " Buff	Sewing (threads per inch):
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Air Permeability	Tested By:	Date:
Test Method: 3-30 cubic feet per minute per square foot per ASTM D 737		Results (cu. ft.):

Impact Performance Test	Tested By:	Date:
Test Method: 195 inches per second velocity change - shock duration of .002 seconds		Results (in. per sec.):

Slide Angle Test	Tested By:	Date:
Test Method: 30E without slippage per TAPPI T-503-OM-84		Results (degrees):

UV Resistance %	Tested By:	Date:
Test Method: 70% retention after 200 hours per 5804-Federal Standard 191		Results (percent):

Tensile Strength	
Test Method:	ASTM D 5034 (Grab test)
Results:	Pre-weathering: _____ lbs. average warp _____ lbs. average fill
	Post-weathering: _____ lbs. average warp _____ lbs. average fill

Authorized Bag Manufacturer Representative	
Date Issued:	Issued By (Signature):
USDA-FSA Official	
Date Received:	Received By (Signature):