



**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:

<b>Production Capacity</b>	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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<b>Air Permeability</b>	Tested By:	Date:
Test Method: 3-30 cubic feet per minute per square foot per ASTM D 737		Results (cu. ft.):

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

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

<b>UV Resistance %</b>	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	

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