National Overview of Plastic Contamination in 2022

Plastics in Cotton III Seminar 2022
Wednesday, May 11, 2022
2021 Packaging Material Use
Tie Use Trend (Bale Basis)

Wire
PET Strap
Steel Strap
PET Bag

*Based on January 31 B&T use data from EWR, Inc.
Bagging Use Trend (Bale Basis)

- Polypropylene
- PE Film
- Burlap
- Cotton
- PET

*Based on January 31 B&T use data from EWR, Inc.
2.2.3.1.2.3. Color: The color of the fabric containing HALS shall be translucent white, translucent light gold, or translucent light blue equivalent to Pantone color 306 C, unless otherwise approved by the JCIBPC.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop Year</th>
<th>Estimated Blue Bags Produced</th>
<th>Estimated Woven PP Bales in Crop</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020 1st year available</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
<td>10.5 Mil/13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>9.8 Mill/20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022 Estimated</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
<td></td>
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2022 Bale Packaging Specifications

- Transparent blue (Pantone 306C) added as an additional color option for PE film bagging
Cotton Bagging Project Update
Cotton Bale Bag Project

- Test to determine the market supply chain acceptance of the fully-approved 3lb. cotton bag (1974)
- 40,000 bags placed at 11 gins in MS and SW regions in 2020
- Collected survey data and analyzed results of bagging lab testing
Cotton Bagging 2022 Plans

Place a small number of bags at 3 different regional warehouses:

- 1.9 lb Developmental
- 2.5 lb Developmental
- 3 lb Approved
- Woven Polypropylene

Collect data on durability and perform cost analysis between the different bagging weights as well as tag adhesives
Production Quality Issues
Woven Polypropylene Contamination
Bagging Manufacturers Meeting Summary

- Met with all the approved PP bagging manufacturers on Oct 15, 2021
- All comments confirmed it looked to be a coating issue in the bagging
  - Coating should be thermally bonded to the tapes
- This was a quality control issue - not a specifications issue
PET Strap Wax Issue
ASABE Round Module Wrap Standard
k. Support the efforts of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) in the development and adoption of the amended (X615.2) Cotton Module Cover Material Performance Standard to include round module wrap materials. The standard should address key physical properties of the wrap material such as tensile strength, abrasion resistance, puncture resistance, etc.; appropriate adhesive properties including effectiveness over a range of anticipated temperatures encountered at harvest; and acceptable colors that can best be easily detected by existing contamination detection technologies.
ASABE Round Module Wrap Standard

- February 15, 2022- Approval and publication of ASABE S615.2 FEB2022, Cotton Module Cover Material Performance, is complete.
- Provides protection to the industry from inferior module wrap products that are beginning to enter the US market. Tama Premium (yellow and pink) wrap product performs at a level acceptable to the US cotton industry, the standard has been developed from measurements on this wrap.
- The NCC will be the depository for the names of the manufactures who meet the minimum standard

wrapstandard@cotton.org.
Contamination
Prevention of Plastic Contamination - Recommended Best Practices for Producers & Ginners

- Introduction by Gary Adams
- Chapter 1: Introduction to Prevention of Plastic Contamination
- Chapter 2: In The Field
- Chapter 3: During Harvest
- Chapter 4: Machine Operation
- Chapter 5: Module Handling
- Chapter 6: How to Stage Modules in the Field
- Chapter 7: Loading a Module Truck
- Chapter 8: Loading a Flatbed Truck
- Chapter 9: Unloading Modules Onto a Gin Yard
- Chapter 10: How to Handle Round Modules at the Gin
- Chapter 11: Unwrapping/ Cutting Open Modules
- Chapter 12: Conclusion

Play All: Prevention of Plastic Contamination

Meeting Materials

Exit
Thank you!

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