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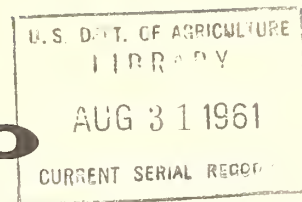
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**supplement to**

**The AMERICAN  
COTTON BALE  
PACKAGE and**

**Our  
Foreign  
Markets**

**(AMS-386)**

ERS - 19

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Economic Research Service  
Marketing Economics Division  
and Foreign Agricultural Service  
Cotton Division



## PREFACE

This supplement to "The American Cotton Bale Package and Our Foreign Markets" (AMS-386) is the second and final report resulting from an extensive study relating to the package and surface condition of U. S. cotton bales received in some of the major foreign markets. It provides an important amount of material, most of which was either not ready for release or not available at the time the earlier report was published. The new data should be of major use to those especially interested in helping reduce the deficiencies in the U. S. bale. The additional and final information given here in no way alters the conclusions and recommendations in the preceding summary report. The few differences between the specific findings as previously indicated and as appearing herein are such that for practical purposes they can be ignored.

Those particularly concerned about this subject who failed to obtain the earlier report may wish to get a copy. If so, it can be obtained from the Division of Information, Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. In addition to the "Highlights and Recommendations" which are repeated in this supplement, it contains considerable information on scope, methods, and limitations which are important to a proper interpretation of some of the material in this supplement.

While this report is directly concerned only with the bale package and bale surface conditions, some of the information obtained and released is of use in other aspects of cotton marketing. For example, persons interested in the broader aspects of marketing will find the information on handling practices in foreign ports (pp. 21 to 24), of considerable interest, especially where these practices differ substantially for U. S. and for foreign growths.

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August 1961



SUPPLEMENT TO  
THE AMERICAN COTTON BALE PACKAGE AND OUR FOREIGN MARKETS, (AMS-386)

by Maurice R. Cooper and R. Herschel McRae 1/

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall Costs and Considerations.--Extra estimated costs attributed to deficiencies in the bale package and surface condition of exported U. S. cotton total about 78 cents per bale. In addition, there are other important effects which cannot now be measured. Some of the more significant of these are the effects, on foreign spinners' processing efficiencies and product qualities, of surface contaminants not removed in preprocess cleaning. But most important are the overall effects of the extra costs--estimated and unestimated--along with related factors, on exports and prices of U. S. cotton.

It is particularly significant in this connection that because of lower consumer purchasing power abroad than in this country and the greater competition confronting U. S. cotton, any extra costs to foreign spinners would normally have a greater effect on American cotton than an equal increase in costs to domestic spinners.

Insurance Claims.--Damage claims attributed to surface condition were paid on 12 percent of all U. S. export bales insured by three major domestic insurance companies in 1957-58. The percentage for each major export market for this cotton ranged from 2 percent for England to 25 for India and 58 for Japan. "Country damage"--a broad, inclusive term--accounted for 69 percent of the total claim costs, and carbon black for 13 percent.

The claim costs on cotton exported to all markets that year averaged \$1.76 per "claim bale" (bales on which claims were paid) and 21 cents per bale insured. The average claim costs per bale for all bales insured were highest for cotton going to Japan (68 cents) and India (46 cents), even though the cost per claim bale was comparatively low.

Test Shipments.--Tucking the covers on heads of U. S. bales under the end bands, which apparently had no significant effect on compressing efficiency, resulted in reasonably good covering on a much higher proportion of the heads of bales on arrival at foreign ports and mills than when the heads were sewed. Bales with the heads sewed accounted for nearly three-fourths of the marked increase in proportions of bale heads contaminated while in transit from domestic locations to foreign ports.

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1/ Mr. Cooper is an agricultural economist in the Marketing Economics Division of Economic Research Service, and Mr. McRae, who is Head, Educational Services, National Cotton Council, served as cooperative agent of the Cotton Division of Foreign Agricultural Service during this study.



The use of patches greatly reduced the number of exposed sample holes, improved the bale appearance, and reduced the opportunity for pilferage and surface contamination. Approximately 96 percent of the unpatched sides checked had one or more exposed sample holes, compared with 40 percent for the sides with patches.

Other Bales Checked.--Checks at foreign port and mill warehouses indicated that the proportion of bale heads of foreign-grown cottons which were 75 to 100 percent covered was three-fifths greater than for U. S. bales. The percentage of sides with one or more exposed sample holes was about a third greater for American bales than other growths.

Port Practices.--For the most part, port practices and operations do not appear to affect the bale package more than a comparable amount of handling at other locations, nor do they affect U. S. bales appreciably more than most other growths. The exceptions are that, at most foreign ports visited, one or two bands are removed from U. S. bales before the samples are drawn, and a higher percentage of U. S. bales than of some other growths are sampled.

Foreign Dealers and Controllers.--Claims and serious complaints because of the bale package and surface conditions were made by cooperating dealers on 24 percent of all U. S. bales and 21 percent of other bales handled by these dealers in 1957-58. Eight percent of the dealers indicated a willingness to pay a premium ranging up to 1 percent for special shipment of U. S. bales highly uniform in shape and completely covered with good bagging.

Better and more closely woven bagging, more completely covered heads and sides, and clearer markings were frequent suggestions of overseas dealers and controllers for improving the U. S. bale.

Foreign Spinners.--Seventy-six percent of the mills contacted did at least some surface cleaning of U. S. bales, compared with 63 percent for other growths; and a much larger proportion picked varying amounts of both U. S. and other cotton from the bagging after it was removed. The estimated cost of these two operations in cooperating mills, including loss in value of cotton involved, was about 30 cents per U. S. bale cleaned and 22 cents per U. S. bale consumed. Corresponding estimates for foreign cotton are 17 and 11 cents. It is highly significant, especially for the mills where these costs are highest, that some foreign growths and all manmade fibers involve little or no such costs.

Of the 22-cent preprocessing cost per U. S. bale consumed, 15 cents is associated with picking the covers. Separate estimates from a few mills indicate the picking cost is twice as large for U. S. bales covered with open-mesh jute as for those with sugar-bag type of cloth.

Recommendations.--It is strongly recommended that further concerted efforts be made to improve U. S. export bales. Five things which should be given immediate attention are: (a) Keep bale heads covered by using an adequate length of bagging and tucking the ends under the outer bands each time the bale is pressed; (b) use close-weave bagging on all bales; (c) patch both sides of all bales sampled three or more times prior to high-density compression; (d) review each operation and take additional appropriate precautions in sampling, handling, storing, and transporting U. S. bales to prevent surface contamination and damage; and (e) explore the possibility of bringing about improvements in the method of sampling U. S. cotton in foreign ports.

Table 1.--Marine insurance: Percentage of export bales on which claims were paid by type of claim, by destination, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 season 1/

Origin and destination of cotton	"Claim bales" as a percent of total insured bales											
	Country damage 2/		Carbon black		Oil, grease, tar		Other 3/		Total			
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
U. S. cotton:												
Germany.....	3.9	2.6	1.1	1.0	--	4/	4/	0.4	5.0	4.0	5.0	4.0
Belgium.....	1.9	5.2	1.3	.4	--	0.3	--	--	3.5	5.6	3.5	5.6
England.....	.3	1.2	.1	.8	--	.6	--	.3	1.0	2.3	1.0	2.3
Italy.....	5.0	5.2	2.6	1.8	--	4/	4/	.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6
India.....	29.2	20.6	--	--	--	--	--	4.8	29.2	25.4	29.2	25.4
Japan.....	22.2	43.8	7.7	13.8	--	4/	4/	.2	29.9	57.8	29.9	57.8
Other.....	1.2	.3	.2	.1	4/	.1	--	.4	1.5	.8	1.5	.8
All areas.....	7.3	8.9	2.1	2.8	4/	.1	4/	.4	9.5	12.1	9.5	12.1
Mexican cotton:												
Germany.....	1.0	15.9	0.5	0.3	--	4/	4/	0.4	1.8	16.6	1.8	16.6
Belgium.....	7.3	6.3	1.0	--	--	3.9	--	1.3	12.2	7.6	12.2	7.6
England.....	.2	9.0	.8	.2	--	.1	--	4/	1.1	9.2	1.1	9.2
Italy.....	1.9	22.1	--	.3	--	.7	--	10.0	2.6	32.4	2.6	32.4
India.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan.....	17.9	43.3	--	--	--	0.6	4/	4/	17.9	43.9	17.9	43.9
Other.....	7.1	25.8	--	--	--	.5	--	--	7.6	25.8	7.6	25.8
All areas.....	9.4	25.6	0.3	0.1	--	0.3	0.3	1.0	10.0	27.0	10.0	27.0

1/ Based on data obtained from 3 major domestic insurance companies underwriting 2,379,000 bales of U. S. exports and 198,000 bales of Mexican exports during the 2 seasons.

2/ "Country damage" is a broad, rather loosely interpreted term which presumably covers damages occurring mainly in the country of origin from exposure to weather or from storing bales on damp ground or floors.

3/ The main specific causes in the other category include contaminations from powdery substances other than carbon black.

4/ Less than 0.05 percent.

Table 2.--Marine insurance: Cost of claims per bale insured by type of claim, by destination, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

Origin and destination	Country damage 2/		Carbon black		Oil, grease, and tar		Other 3/		Total	
	:1956-57	:1957-58	:1956-57	:1957-58	:1956-57	:1957-58	:1956-57	:1957-58		
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
<u>U. S. cotton:</u>										
Germany.....	.07	.08	.02	.02	--	4/	4/	.11	.09	.21
Belgium.....	.05	.12	.02	.01	--	--	.10	--	.08	.13
England.....	.01	.03	4/	.01	--	--	.01	.03	.02	.07
Italy.....	.14	.16	.08	.04	--	4/	4/	.01	.22	.21
India.....	.49	.31	--	--	--	--	.01	.15	.50	.46
Japan.....	.27	.57	.08	.11	--	--	4/	4/	.35	.68
Other.....	.02	.02	.01	4/	4/	--	4/	.03	.03	.05
All areas.....	.11	.14	.03	.03	4/	4/	4/	.04	.14	.21
<u>Mexican cotton:</u>										
Germany.....	.02	.38	.01	.01	--	.01	4/	.01	.03	.41
Belgium.....	.13	.16	.02	--	--	--	.04	.96	.19	1.12
England.....	.01	.47	.02	4/	--	--	.01	4/	.04	.47
Italy.....	.07	.50	--	.01	--	--	.01	.10	.08	.61
India.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan.....	.27	1.30	--	--	--	.02	--	4/	.27	1.32
Other.....	.14	.37	--	--	--	--	.01	--	.15	.37
All areas.....	.15	.75	.01	.01	--	.01	4/	.05	.16	.82

See footnotes 1, 2, 3, and 4, table 1.

Table 3.--Marine insurance: Cost of claims per "claim bale" by type of claim, by destination, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

Origin and destination	Country damage 2/	Carbon black	Oil, grease, and tar	Other 3/	Total			
	:1956-57 :1957-58	:1956-57 :1957-58	:1956-57 :1957-58	:1956-57 :1957-58	:1956-57 :1957-58			
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars			
<u>U. S. cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	1.75	3.06	1.73	13.18	3.08	30.36	1.75	5.29
Belgium.....	2.70	2.45	1.50	--	1.97	--	2.19	2.38
England.....	2.92	1.98	1.35	--	1.06	11.95	1.69	2.93
Italy.....	2.81	3.06	2.90	2.44	.94	2.17	2.82	2.79
India.....	1.68	1.49	--	--	63.89	3.13	1.72	1.80
Japan.....	1.23	1.30	.99	--	2.23	1.12	1.17	1.17
Other.....	1.99	6.35	1.78	2.82	1.55	6.53	1.95	6.17
All areas.....	1.53	1.65	1.33	4.13	1.54	8.41	1.48	1.76
<u>Mexican cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	1.89	2.41	1.27	138.00	1.82	2.64	1.70	2.46
Belgium.....	1.83	2.55	1.91	--	.88	73.24	1.53	14.66
England.....	8.34	5.19	2.91	--	3.61	15.00	3.76	5.15
Italy.....	3.76	2.30	--	--	1.79	1.00	3.21	1.90
India.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan.....	1.52	3.01	--	3.31	--	23.00	1.52	3.02
Other.....	1.98	1.44	--	--	1.52	--	1.94	1.44
All areas.....	1.60	2.94	2.32	4.44	1.52	5.61	1.62	3.05

See footnotes 1, 2, and 3, table 1.



Table 4.--Marine insurance: Percentage of "claim bales" by type of claim, by destination, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

Origin and destination	Country damage <u>2/</u>		Carbon black		Oil, grease, and tar		Other <u>3/</u>	
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
<u>U. S. Cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	78.3	65.8	21.4	24.7	--	0.2	0.3	9.3
Belgium.....	54.7	92.2	37.0	7.8	--	--	8.3	--
England.....	31.8	53.7	10.7	34.3	--	--	57.5	12.0
Italy.....	65.3	68.2	33.5	24.0	--	.5	1.2	7.3
India.....	99.9	81.1	--	--	--	--	.1	18.9
Japan.....	74.1	75.7	25.8	24.0	--	--	.1	.3
Other.....	77.4	37.2	15.4	7.7	1.8	--	5.4	55.1
All areas...	76.5	73.3	22.0	22.9	.1	.1	1.4	3.7
<u>Mexican cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	53.4	95.7	28.4	2.0	--	0.1	18.2	2.2
Belgium.....	60.1	82.9	7.7	--	--	--	32.2	17.1
England.....	14.1	98.1	73.4	1.6	--	--	12.5	.3
Italy.....	72.4	68.4	--	.8	--	--	27.6	30.8
India.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan.....	100.0	98.5	--	1.5	--	--	--	<u>4/</u>
Other.....	93.1	100.0	--	--	--	--	6.9	--
All areas...	94.1	95.0	2.9	.5	--	.9	3.0	3.6

See footnotes 1, 2, 3, and 4, table 1.

Table 5.--Marine insurance: Percentage of "claim costs" by type of claim, by destination, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

Origin and destination	Country damage <u>2/</u>		Carbon black		Oil, grease, and tar		Other <u>3/</u>	
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
<u>U. S. cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	78.2	38.0	21.2	8.1	--	0.5	0.6	53.4
Belgium.....	67.2	94.8	25.4	5.2	--	--	7.4	--
England.....	55.2	36.3	8.6	14.9	--	--	36.2	48.8
Italy.....	65.1	74.5	34.5	19.3	--	.5	.4	5.7
India.....	98.1	67.0	--	--	--	--	1.9	33.0
Japan.....	78.1	84.1	21.8	15.6	--	--	.1	.3
Other.....	79.0	38.2	14.1	3.5	2.6	--	4.3	58.3
All areas...	78.6	68.6	19.8	13.3	0.1	0.2	1.5	17.9
<u>Mexican cotton:</u>								
Germany.....	59.3	93.8	21.2	1.1	--	2.8	19.5	2.3
Belgium.....	71.8	14.4	9.6	--	--	--	18.6	85.6
England.....	31.3	98.9	56.7	.4	--	--	12.0	.7
Italy.....	84.6	82.6	--	1.2	--	--	15.4	16.2
India.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan.....	100.0	98.3	--	--	--	1.6	--	.1
Other.....	94.6	100.0	--	--	--	--	5.4	--
All areas...	93.0	91.7	4.2	.3	--	1.4	2.8	6.6

See footnotes 1, 2, and 3, table 1.



Table 6.--Marine insurance: Percentage of insured and "claim" bales by destinations, United States and Mexican cotton, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons 1/

Destination:	Insured bales				"Claim" bales			
	United States		Mexico		United States		Mexico	
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Germany.....	24.1	16.8	16.3	25.6	12.5	5.5	3.0	15.7
Belgium.....	2.2	1.8	3.6	4.4	.8	.8	4.4	1.3
England.....	16.5	14.8	21.8	19.2	1.7	2.8	2.4	6.5
Italy.....	9.6	16.6	6.3	8.2	7.8	10.4	1.6	9.8
India.....	4.1	1.8	--	--	12.6	3.7	--	--
Japan.....	19.4	15.6	47.4	38.6	60.9	74.6	85.1	62.9
Other.....	24.1	32.6	4.6	4.0	3.7	2.2	3.5	3.8
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Based on data obtained from 3 major domestic insurance companies underwriting 2,379,000 bales of U. S. exports and 198,000 bales of Mexican exports during the 2 seasons.

Table 7.--United States cotton bales delivered for export: Total inspected by New Orleans (La.) Steamship Association inspectors, and number and percentage condemned for specified reasons, 1954-57, and Jan. 1 - Oct. 31, 1958 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	1954		1955		1956		1957		January 1 - October 31, 1958	
	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.
Total bales inspected.....	913,928	100.0	426,156	100.0	1,474,365	100.0	2,175,618	100.0	1,065,165	100.0
Bales condemned due to:										
Damaged cotton.....	3,213	14.3	2,801	22.2	9,158	28.4	22,533	40.2	6,934	23.8
Oil or grease.....	339	1.5	1,671	13.3	4,144	12.8	4,119	7.4	6,812	23.3
Spiders and loose, broken, or missing bands....	5,161	23.0	2,515	19.9	8,081	25.1	10,387	18.6	5,591	19.2
Insufficient patching.....	242	1.1	105	0.8	227	0.7	184	0.3	299	1.0
Unsatisfactory marks.....	13,127	58.4	5,248	41.6	8,466	26.2	13,828	24.7	7,960	27.3
Insufficient density.....	368	1.7	277	2.2	2,196	6.8	4,919	8.8	1,583	5.4
All causes.....	22,450	100.0	12,617	100.0	32,272	100.0	55,970	100.0	29,179	100.0
Total condemned as a percent of total inspected....	--	2.5	--	3.0	--	2.2	--	2.6	--	2.7

<sup>1/</sup> Based on information supplied by the New Orleans Steamship Association Cotton Inspection Bureau. The inspections and rejections or condemnations covered in this report were made in accordance with the Association's rules and regulations governing such inspection.

Table 8.--Test shipments of U. S. cotton: Sewed and tucked bale heads with specified proportions covered, at domestic compresses, domestic shipside, and foreign ports, 1958-59 season

Method of securing bagging and condition of bale heads	Domestic compresses	Domestic shipside	Foreign ports			
	Heads <u>2/</u>	Per- cent	Heads <u>2/</u>	Per- cent	Heads <u>2/</u>	Per- cent
Based on 7 shipments: <u>1/</u>						
Sewed heads: <u>1/</u>						
75-100 percent covered.....	896	80.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	451	39.1
25-75 percent covered.....	197	17.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	333	28.9
Under 25 percent covered.....	20	1.8	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	369	32.0
Total.....	1,113	100.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	1,153	100.0
Tucked heads: <u>1/</u>						
75-100 percent covered.....	963	86.8	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	565	54.1
25-75 percent covered.....	108	9.7	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	349	33.4
Under 25 percent covered.....	39	3.5	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	130	12.5
Total.....	1,110	100.0	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	1,044	100.0
Based on 2 shipments: <u>4/</u>						
Sewed heads: <u>1/</u>						
75 to 100 percent covered....	259	74.2	176	44.4	92	31.1
25 to 75 percent covered.....	79	22.6	117	29.6	74	25.0
Under 25 percent covered.....	11	3.2	103	26.0	130	43.9
Total.....	349	100.0	396	100.0	296	100.0
Tucked heads: <u>1/</u>						
75 to 100 percent covered....	304	79.0	198	49.6	120	40.3
25 to 75 percent covered.....	56	14.5	100	25.1	108	36.2
Under 25 percent covered.....	25	6.5	101	25.3	70	23.5
Total.....	386	100.0	399	100.0	298	100.0

1/ Seven shipments, totaling 1,324 bales, which were checked both at domestic compresses and foreign ports. On 690 bales (approximately half of the bales in 6 of the shipments and two-thirds of the 7th) the bagging covering the heads (or ends) of the bales was sewed in the conventional manner and on the others (634) it was tucked under the bands nearest each end of the bale.

2/ Because of a combination of factors, satisfactory checks were not made of the condition of both heads (or ends) of all bales.

3/ Comparable observations not available.

4/ Two shipments of 200 bales each which were checked at all three locations. On approximately half of each shipment the bagging covering the heads (or ends) of the bales was sewed in the conventional manner and, on the other half it was tucked under the band nearest each end of the bale.

Table 9.--Test shipments of U. S. cotton: Bale sample sides with specified number of exposed sample bales when patched and unpatched, and bale flat sides with specified proportions covered, 1958-59 season <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Sides <sup>1/</sup>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Exposed sample holes on sides with patches:</u>		
None.....	1,079	60.5
1 or 2.....	695	38.9
3 or more.....	11	.6
Total.....	1,785	100.0
<u>Exposed sample holes on sides without patches:</u>		
None.....	20	3.6
1 or 2.....	294	52.1
3 or more.....	250	44.3
Total.....	564	100.0
<u>Proportion of flat sides covered:</u>		
75 to 100 percent.....	44	2.2
25 to 75 percent.....	986	47.9
Under 25 percent.....	1,027	49.9
Total.....	2,057	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> Based on checks made at domestic compresses on 2,439 sample sides and 2,057 flat sides of the bales in all 7 test shipments. The failure to check the other 209 sample sides and 591 flat sides was due to several factors, but the most important one was a misunderstanding which resulted in part of one shipment having been processed before the project workers reached the compress.

Table 10.--Test shipments of U. S. cotton: Bales which were uniform and misshaped, and with specified number of missing or broken bands, at domestic compresses and at foreign ports, 1958-59 season 1/

Item	At domestic compresses <u>2/</u>		At foreign ports <u>2/</u>	
	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Shape of bales:</u>				
Uniform.....	1,252	98.8	1,253	95.1
Misshaped.....	15	1.2	64	4.9
Total.....	1,267	100.0	1,317	100.0
<u>Missing or broken bands:</u>				
None.....	1,243	98.1	1,142	86.9
One.....	21	1.7	112	8.5
Two or more.....	3	.2	61	4.6
Total.....	1,267	100.0	1,315	100.0

1/ Based on 7 shipments, totaling 1,324 bales, which were checked at domestic compresses and foreign ports. Practically all the bales in these shipments not included in this tabulation are accounted for by part of one shipment at a domestic port being processed before the project workers reached the compress.

2/ In comparing the data for these two locations it should be noted that as a result of shipping regulations and the work of inspectors maintained by the steamship and maritime associations, presumably most of, if not all, the bales observed at the domestic compresses which were defective from being misshaped and because of missing or broken bands were corrected before being exported. See table 7 for examples of the type of package and bale surface defects for which inspectors initially rejected bales delivered to the docks at New Orleans for export.



Table 11.--Test shipments of U. S. cotton: Bales and sample sides classed as contaminated when bale heads were sewed or tucked, at domestic compresses and foreign ports, 1958-59 season 1/

Method of sewing bagging and location of bales when checked	Bales checked	Bales classed as contaminated <u>2/</u>		Bales with sample sides classed as contaminated <u>2/</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Bales with sewed heads:</u>					
At domestic compresses.....	640	<u>2/</u> 76	<u>2/</u> 11.9	<u>2/</u> 14	<u>2/</u> 2.2
At foreign ports.....	685	94	13.7	43	6.3
Average both locations.....	662.5	85	12.8	28.5	4.3
<u>Bales with tucked heads:</u>					
At domestic compresses.....	627	<u>2/</u> 77	<u>2/</u> 12.3	<u>2/</u> 10	<u>2/</u> 1.6
At foreign ports.....	632	75	11.9	22	3.5
Average both locations.....	629.5	76	12.1	16	2.5
<u>Bales sewed and tucked:</u>					
At domestic compresses.....	1,267	<u>2/</u> 153	<u>2/</u> 12.1	<u>2/</u> 24	<u>2/</u> 1.9
At foreign ports.....	1,317	169	12.8	65	4.9
Average both locations.....	1,292	161	12.5	44.5	3.4

1/ Based on most of the bales in each of the 7 test shipments with a total of 1,324 bales, of which the bagging covering the heads was sewed on 690 bales and was tucked on 634 bales.

2/ Because of the conditions and procedures involved in making the classifications reported in these columns, these data are at best only rough approximations. Furthermore, in comparing the data for the two locations it should be noted that because of export shipping regulations and the work of inspectors maintained by the steamship associations (see table 7), presumably at least some of the bales classed as contaminated by project workers at domestic compresses may have been cleaned to some degree prior to being exported.



Table 12.--Non-test shipment cotton: Bale heads with specified proportions covered and bale sides with specified number of exposed sample holes, at European and other mills, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season 1/

Proportion of head covered and exposed sample holes per side	At European mills			At "other" mills		
	U. S. cotton	Foreign cotton	Percent	U. S. cotton	Foreign cotton	Percent
	Heads	Percent	Heads	Percent	Heads	Percent
75 to 100 percent.....	311	55.9	1,087	74.1	31	45.0
25 to 75 percent.....	99	17.8	143	9.7	17	24.6
Under 25 percent.....	146	26.3	238	16.2	21	30.4
Total heads checked.....	556	100.0	1,468	100.0	69	100.0
					150	100.0
Exposed sample holes per side:	Sides	Percent	Sides	Percent	Sides	Percent
None.....	14	10.6	186	32.3	4	10.8
One or two.....	88	66.1	376	65.4	23	62.0
Three or more.....	31	23.3	13	2.3	10	27.2
Total sides checked.....	133	100.0	575	100.0	37	100.0
					131	100.0

1/ Due to a combination of developments the observations used in developing the data in this table were limited to 10 mills, 8 of which were in Europe.





A

BN-13775



B

BN-13784



C

BN-13785



D

BN-13786

Figure 1.--U. S. and foreign bales in overseas markets. United States bales generally reach foreign ports (A) and mills (B) with significantly greater proportions of the bale surface exposed and contaminated than foreign bales (C and D). Largely as a result of these shortcomings, overseas dealers, controllers, and spinners were much more critical of the U. S. bale package than that of almost any other country.



Table 14.--Receiving and related practices at 10 specified ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season

Origin of cotton and port	Bales unloaded: from ships to--		Bales removed by--		Moved by truck: to warehouse		Missing bands replaced 1/	
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	As : Before :	Cost
	Barges :	Ships :	Barges :	Ships :	Barges :	Ships :	landed :	shipping :
							paid by	
U. S. cotton:								
Manchester.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Liverpool.....	95	2/ 5	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Bremen.....	100	100	100	100	80	20	No	S.S. Line
Le Havre.....	100	100	100	100	20	80	No	S.S. Line
Genoa.....	80	3/100	100	3/100	4/100	4/	No	S.S. Line
Venice-Mestre..	60	3/100	100	3/100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Barcelona.....	100	100	100	100	5/100	100	No	S.S. Line
Bombay.....	--	100	100	100	100	100	No	Importer
Kobe.....	20	80	100	40	60	90	Yes	Importer
Hong Kong.....	70	30	100	100	100	100	No	--
Foreign cotton:								
Manchester.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Liverpool.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Bremen.....	100	100	100	100	80	20	No	S.S. Line
Le Havre.....	100	100	100	100	20	80	No	S.S. Line
Genoa.....	80	20	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Venice-Mestre..	60	40	100	100	100	100	No	S.S. Line
Barcelona.....	100	100	100	100	100	100	No	Importer
Bombay.....	60	40	100	100	100	100	No	--
Kobe.....	20	80	100	40	60	90	Yes	Importer
Hong Kong.....	70	30	100	100	100	100	No	--

1/ In most cases, bands are not replaced if only one or two bands are missing. However, at all ports in extreme cases where bales have burst open, some bands are replaced. 2/ The 5% going into barges at Liverpool are those bales that move on to Manchester by barge. 3/ Most bales are taken from ship's hold and placed on deck with hooks and are then moved from deck to dock or transit shed by rope slings. 4/ Clamp trucks are only used to stack or pile bales in the warehouse. 5/ Bales are moved from shipside to transit warehouse on electric dollies, 4 bales per load, and then blocked out by hand truck.

Table 15.--Weighing and related practices at 10 specified ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season

Origin of cotton and port	Weighed on landing or number of days after	Where weights were recorded	Type of scales used	Agency responsible for weighing	Re-weighed when shipped to mill
<u>U. S. cotton:</u>					
Manchester....	Landing	Tag, wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	No
Liverpool....	Landing	Bale, tag, wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	No
Bremen.....	4 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Consignee	No
Le Havre.....	2/ 3 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Con. & Cont.	No
Genoa.....	Landing	Bale	Beam	Independent	Yes
Venice-Mestre..	3/ 10 days	Bale 3/, wt. sheet	Platf.	Independent	3/Yes
Barcelona.....	4/ 20 days	Wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	No
Bombay.....	3-4 days	Bale, wt. sheet	Beam	Consignee	5/No
Kobe.....	10-14 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Consignee	Yes
Hong Kong.....	6/ 7 days	Bale, wt. sheet	Platf.	Controller	No
<u>Foreign cotton:</u>					
Manchester....	Landing	Tag, wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	No
Liverpool....	Landing	Bale, wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	No
Bremen.....	4 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Consignee	No
Le Havre.....	3 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Con. & Cont.	No
Genoa.....	6/ Landing	Bale, 7/ wt. sheet	Beam	Independent	7/Yes
Venice-Mestre..	3/ 10 days	Bale, 3/ wt. sheet	Platf.	Independent	3/Yes
Barcelona.....	4/ 20 days	Wt. sheet	P. & B.	Independent	No
Bombay.....	3-4 days	Bale, wt. sheet	Beam	Consignee	5/No
Kobe.....	10-14 days	Wt. sheet	Platf.	Consignee	Yes
Hong Kong.....	6/ 7 days	Bale, wt. sheet	Platf.	Controller	No

Note: With the possible exception of Bombay (where the answer was not obtained), the settlement weights were those initially determined, which in most cases were the landed weights.

1/ Controller operates in a supervisory capacity at Le Havre, Bombay, and Kobe.

2/ If cleared by customs within the period.

3/ U. S. and Mexican bales are weighed 10 days after landing, weights are recorded in ink on bales. When shipped out to mills these bales are reweighed. All other bales are weighed only when ordered out to mills, weights are recorded on weight sheets.

4/ All bales are weighed only when shipped to the mills.

5/ Reweighing is usually done at the mills.

6/ Due to congested storage conditions bales were weighed as shipped to mill or after arrival at mill.

7/ Mexican, Central and South American, Sudan, and Egyptian bales are weighed on landing; weights are recorded in ink on bales. When ordered out to mills within 10 days of landing all others are weighed; those with landing weights are reweighed; this information is recorded on weight sheets.

Table 16.--Sampling and related practices at 10 specified ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season

Origin of cotton and port	Bales sampled:	Number of samples drawn	Average wt. per sample	Sides	Bands--	Cuts sewed	Samples drawn by--		Samples drawn for--											
							Re-moved	Re-placed	Independent Co. agent	Consignee's agent	Importer	Mill	Shipper	Arbitration						
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Oz.	No.	No.														
U. S. cotton:																				
Manchester.....	100	80	20	--	4	1/1-2	2	No	No	--	X	X	X							
Liverpool.....	100	90	10	--	4	1/1-2	2	No	No	--	X	X	X							
Bremen.....	100	--	80	20	8	1	2	No	No	X	X	X	X							
Le Havre.....	100	--	100	--	8	1	2	No	Yes	--	X	X	X							
Genoa.....	100	--	90	10	8	1	1	No	Yes	X	X	X	X							
Venice-Mestre.....	100	--	90	10	8	1	1	No	Yes	X	X	X	X							
Barcelona.....	10	--	--	100	8	1	1	No	No	X	X	X	X							
Bombay.....	100	--	100	--	5	1	0	No	No	--	X	X	X							
Kobe.....	10	--	80	20	8-12	1	1-2	Yes	Yes	--	X	X	X							
Hong Kong.....	2-10	90	10	--	24-30	2	2	No	Yes	--	X	X	X							
Foreign cotton:																				
Manchester.....	2/100	90	10	--	4	1	1-2	3/Yes-No	No	--	X	X	X							
Liverpool.....	2/100	90	10	--	4/4-40	1	1-2	2/Yes-No	No	--	X	X	X							
Bremen.....	100	--	80	20	8	1	2	No	No	X	X	X	X							
Le Havre.....	2/100	--	100	--	8	1	2	No	Yes	--	X	X	X							
Genoa.....	2/100	--	90	10	4/8	1	1	No	Yes	X	X	X	X							
Venice-Mestre.....	2/100	--	90	10	4/8	1	1	No	Yes	X	X	X	X							
Barcelona.....	10	--	--	100	8	1	1	No	No	X	X	X	X							
Bombay.....	5/10	--	100	--	32	1	2	Yes	No	--	X	X	X							
Kobe.....	10	--	80	20	8-32	1	1-2	Yes	Yes	--	X	X	X							
Hong Kong.....	2-5	90	10	--	32-80	1	1	Yes	Yes	--	X	X	X							

1/ Samples are drawn from two sides of U. S. cotton bales only at the request of individual companies.

2/ All foreign cotton sampled on 100 percent basis at these ports except at Manchester and Liverpool where East Indian was 10 percent and Sudan 10 to 20 percent and at Le Havre, Genoa, and Venice-Mestre where Indian, Pakistan, and Sudan were on 10 percent basis.

3/ Bands are replaced only on East Indian and like bales, three large bands which circle the bale at least 2 times.

4/ At Liverpool the average for East Indian was reported to be 2-1/2 pounds and that for other foreign cotton to be 4 ounces. At Genoa and Venice-Mestre the average both for East Indian and Pakistan was reported as "heavier than 8 ounces," with 8 ounces indicated for other foreign cotton.

5/ African bales were sampled on a 4 percent minimum basis, all other foreign bales were sampled at 10 percent.

6/ One sample goes to either importer or mill. In many cases it is the same.

7/ Samples are sent to selling agent only when outturn samples for shipper's are pulled.

8/ Samples also go to Government agency in charge of purchasing cotton.

9/ Acts in supervisory capacity.

10/ Outturn samples for shipper's agent.



Table 17.--Storage, tare, and related practices at 10 specified ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season

Origin of cotton and port	Bales stored in transit sheds			Percent checked for tare		Bands replaced	
	Number of days	On head or cordwood style	Hand or mechanical trucks	Permitted by regulations	Average or usual practice	Original bands	Number of other bands
<b>U. S. cotton:</b>							
Manchester.....	4-5	1/ Both	Hand	10	2-3	Yes	2/ 3
Liverpool.....	5	1/ Both	Hand	10	2	Yes	2/ 3
Bremen.....	3	Head	Both	10	3-4	Yes	0
Le Havre.....	4	Cordwood	3/ Both	5	5	No	4
Genoa.....	4	Head	Both	10	2	No	4-5
Venice-Mestre.....	14	Head	Both	10	2	No	4-5
Barcelona.....	20	Cordwood	Both	10	10	4/ Yes	4/ 0
Bombay.....	4-5	Both	Hand	10	4	Yes	0
Kobe.....	10-25	Both	Hand	5	4	Yes	0
Hong Kong.....	6-7	Cordwood	Both	5	3	5/	5/
<b>Foreign cotton:</b>							
Manchester.....	4-5	1/ Both	Hand	10	2	6/ Yes	2/ 3
Liverpool.....	5	1/ Both	Hand	10	2	6/ Yes	2/ 3
Bremen.....	3	Head	Both	10	3-4	Yes	0
Le Havre.....	4	1/ Both	3/ Both	5	5	No	4
Genoa.....	4	Head	Both	10	2	No	4-5
Venice-Mestre.....	14	Head	Both	10	2	No	4-5
Barcelona.....	20	Cordwood	Both	10	10	Yes	0
Bombay.....	4-5	Head	Hand	7/ 4 and 10	2	Yes	0
Kobe.....	10-25	Both	Hand	5	4	Yes	0
Hong Kong.....	7	Cordwood	Both	5	3	5/	5/

Note: In all ports other commodities are processed through same facilities as cotton.

1/ At Manchester and Liverpool the method used depends upon the space available. At Le Havre the method used for foreign cotton depends upon the type of bale. 2/ One and a half original bands used to make one long one. Three of the long ones are replaced on bales. 3/ Estimates as given for these are: U. S. cotton, 40 percent hand and 60 percent mechanical; foreign cotton 50 percent by each. 4/ The 9 original bands are made into 6 long ones which are then replaced on the bales thus restoring the original band weight to the bales. The bands are not disturbed at this port since tare checks are only made after bales are opened at the mills. 6/ Original bands are replaced on East Indian and like banded bales of foreign cotton. 7/ Four percent for African cotton, 10 percent for other foreign growths.

Table 18.--Bale weights, tare and other data, United States and specified foreign cottons, 1958-59 season 1/

Origin of cotton	Normal bale weight (average or range)	Normal tare weight (average or range)	Normal density (range <u>2/</u> )	Bands per bale
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Number</u>
United States.....	500	20-22	30-34	9
Central America....	500	11-14	12-25	6-11
Mexico.....	500	15-21	24-32	9
Brazil.....	420-440	7-9	32-35	8-9
Peru.....	530-600	8-9	32-35	6-7
Russia.....	450	8-10	25-30	10-11
Pakistan.....	400-410	7-9	28-34	<u>3/</u> 3 or 8-12
India.....	400-410	7-9	28-34	<u>3/</u> 3 or 8-12
Sudan.....	400-450	10-15	20-25	8-10
Uganda.....	400-420	10-12	20-25	7-8
French Africa.....	220-230	8	24-28	7
Nigeria.....	410-415	13	23-26	7
Egypt.....	725-750	18-21	32-35	9-11
Iran.....	300-600	10-15	10-18	7-12
Iraq.....	400-600	10-15	14-17	7-10
Turkey.....	450-475	9-12	12-18	6-7
Greece.....	500-550	8	12-14	7-8
Congo.....	120-220	5-7	18-26	5-7

1/ Based on reports from one cotton controller in 9 of the 10 ports shown in tables 14 to 17. The data given are the averages or ranges these controllers most frequently reported as normally representing the cotton bales from the countries shown. The actual averages, if available, no doubt would often differ to some extent from either the midpoint of these ranges or from the averages given here.

2/ Per cubic foot.

3/ Three long circular bands or 8 to 12 regular bands.



A

BN-13780



B

BN-13774



C

BN-13781



D

BN-13782

Figure 2.--Test shipments indicate two ways of improving U. S. bales. Bagging tucked under the outer bands (A) gives export bales more adequate protection (see also table 11), better appearance, and should help reduce complaints and insurance claims from foreign buyers. This practice, which costs no more than the conventional procedure of sewing the bagging (B), is now being used by a few exporters. "Marking patches" on two sides instead of one (C and D) also provides a bale which is more desirable to foreign buyers. While this costs more (table 28), a few shippers consider the practice worth the expense.



Table 19.--Highlights of comments and suggestions on bale packages by cotton controllers in selected foreign ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season 1/

Origin of cotton and comments or suggestion <u>2/</u>	Number	Percent
<u>United States cotton:</u>		
A. Weak points: <u>2/</u>		
1. Open and weak bagging.....	9	100
2. Uncovered heads and sides.....	7	78
3. Use of only 1 patch.....	3	33
4. Excessive sampling.....	1	11
5. Ineffective sewing of heads.....	1	11
6. Use of reused bagging.....	1	11
B. Strong points: <u>2/</u>		
1. Good band strength.....	7	78
2. High density of the bales.....	4	44
3. Good markings on the bales.....	1	11
C. Suggested changes: <u>2/</u>		
1. Closer weave bagging.....	8	89
2. Cover, tuck, or secure bale heads.....	7	78
3. Complete coverage of bale.....	2	22
4. Use two patches per bale.....	2	22
5. Less sampling.....	1	11
6. "Uniform" bagging.....	1	11
<u>Foreign cotton:</u>		
D. Weak points: <u>2/</u>		
1. Spiral and "inadequate" bands (for East Indian, Pakistan, or "Middle East" cotton).....	5	71
2. Poor bagging and poor covering (for Peruvian cotton).....	2	29
3. Low compression (for "Middle East" cotton).....	2	29
4. "Same" weaknesses for Mexican as for U. S. cotton.....	1	14

See footnotes at end of table.

--Continued

Table 19.--Highlights of comments and suggestions on bale packages by cotton controllers in selected foreign ports, United States and foreign cotton, 1958-59 season 1/--Continued

Origin of cotton and comments or suggestion 2/	: Number and percentage making : each comment or suggestion 1/	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
E. Strong points: 2/		
1. Good bagging and coverage - African cotton.....	2	29
2. Good bagging, coverage, and density, except for "Middle East" cotton.....	2	29
3. Good bagging and coverage, protected heads (apparently for most foreign cotton).....	1	14
4. Good coverage and uniform bagging (apparently for at least most foreign cotton).....	1	14
5. Well covered and no sample holes - Russian, African, and Egyptian cotton.....	1	14
F. Suggested changes: 2/		
1. Higher compression - "Middle East" cotton.....	3	50
2. Better bagging - Peruvian cotton.....	2	33
3. More bands and better bagging - "Middle East" cotton.....	2	33
4. Individual bands - Indian, Pakistan cotton.....	1	17

1/ This table, including the percentage column, is based on information supplied by one controller in 6 to 9 of the ports shown in tables 14 to 17. There were 9 respondents in categories A, B, and C; 7 in D and E; 6 in F.

2/ Due to the need for brevity and to differences in the wording of individual respondents' comments and suggestions, several of the items as worded here are not exactly as submitted. This is especially true for some of those under D, E, and F, as some respondents gave particular growths they referred to while others did not. These factors are also at least partially responsible for the overlapping or interrelations of some of the items, as for example item A-2 in relation to items A-3, A-4, and A-5.

Table 20.--Information from foreign dealers: Extent of their reported claims and complaints due to bale package and surface conditions, United States and foreign cotton, 1957-58 season

Item	U. S. cotton	Foreign cotton
A. <u>Respondents involved: 1/</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1. Respondents reporting they had filed claims or made serious complaints.....	2/ 27.1	2/ 25.7
2. Respondents not reporting such claims and complaints.....	72.9	74.3
Total.....	100.0	100.0
B. <u>Bales involved: 1/</u>		
1. Bales reported as involved in claims.....	2/ 9.8	2/ 6.3
2. Bales imported or handled not so reported.	91.2	93.7
Total.....	100.0	100.0
3. Bales reported as involved in serious complaints.....	2/ 13.8	2/ 13.7
4. Bales imported or handled not so reported.	86.2	86.3
Total.....	100.0	100.0
C. <u>Main causes indicated for claims and complaints: 3/</u>		
1. Soiled bales.....	24	19
2. Rust from ties.....	17	19
3. Country damage.....	15	23
4. Poorly covered.....	11	0
5. Carbon black or ink spots.....	9	7
6. Broken and missing ties.....	6	13
7. Torn covers.....	6	3
8. Loss of cotton from sample holes.....	4	0
9. Irregular tare weights.....	4	0
10. Foreign matter in bale.....	2	10
11. Ragged and loose ends.....	2	0
12. Mix packed.....	0	3
13. Weak ties.....	0	3
All claims and complaints.....	100	100

1/ Data for both A and B items are based only on those schedules from respondents handling the cottons indicated where it was clear as to whether or not claims or serious complaints had been made. The A items include information from some respondents who supplied only the percentage of their volume which was U. S. and foreign cotton without giving quantities. The B items are, of course, based only on schedules containing volume data. 2/ It is likely that the estimates for these A and B items are somewhat too small and the other individual A and B items are somewhat too large since some respondents reported that no claims or complaints had been made during the season, only because they felt there was little or nothing to be gained by doing so. 3/ Based on the total number of times each cause was mentioned in all usable schedules and the aggregate number of times the listed causes appeared in all such schedules.



Table 21.--Information from foreign dealers: Dealers listing specified countries as providing the best and the poorest package cotton bales, 1957-58 season

Country	Best packaged		Poorest packaged	
	Dealers	Percent	Dealers	Percent
Belgian Congo.....	3	2.7	0	0
Brazil 1/.....	8	7.3	1	1.1
Egypt.....	12	11.0	0	0
French Equatorial Africa.....	5	4.6	0	0
Greece.....	0	0	3	3.2
India 1/.....	2	1.8	8	8.6
Iran 1/.....	1	.9	5	5.4
Mexico 1/.....	5	4.6	1	1.1
Nicaragua 1/.....	5	4.6	3	3.2
Nigeria.....	5	4.6	0	0
Pakistan 1/.....	2	1.8	3	3.2
El Salvador.....	5	4.6	0	0
Sudan.....	9	8.3	0	0
Syria 1/.....	4	3.7	3	3.2
Turkey 1/.....	2	1.8	5	5.4
Tanganyika.....	4	3.7	0	0
Uganda.....	15	13.7	0	0
U. S. S. R. ....	17	15.6	0	0
U. S. A. 1/.....	1	.9	60	64.5
Other.....	4	3.7	1	1.1
Total replies.....	109	100.0	93	100.0

1/ The fact that these countries appear in both the best and the poorest categories is due to a number of factors. Probably the most important of these are: (a) Differences among the dealers as to the countries or the areas within countries from which they normally obtain cotton, and in the average quality of the cotton handled, together with how particular their mill customers are, and (b) differences in the package and surface condition of bales exported from some individual countries

Note: Within some countries the bales from particular areas or from individual gins may differ greatly from those produced in other areas or gins.

Table 22.--Information from foreign dealers: Suggestions for improving the U. S. cotton bale package and surface conditions and related views, 1957-58 season.

Item	Dealers	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Suggestion for improving the package and bale surface 1/:</u>		
Cover bale completely.....	26	31.7
Better and more closely woven bagging.....	26	31.7
Use only new bagging and ties.....	7	8.5
Patch sample holes.....	3	3.7
Use more ties and replace broken ones.....	4	4.9
Use uniform bagging and ties (standardize tare weights).....	4	4.9
Better coverage of heads and ends of bale...	4	4.9
Mark more clearly.....	3	3.7
Use mechanical samplers to reduce sample holes.....	1	1.2
Others.....	4	4.9
	82	100.0
<u>Views as to the effects on sales 2/:</u>		
Respondents indicating poor package reduces sales.....	19	28.8
Respondents not indicating such effects.....	47	71.2
	66	100.0
<u>Views on premium payments for especially packaged bales 2/:</u>		
Respondents indicating they would pay premiums of 0.25 to 1.0 percent.....	4	7.1
Respondents giving a qualified reply 3/.....	6	10.7
Respondents indicating they would not pay any premium.....	46	82.2
	56	100.0

1/ The data represent the number and percentage of times each item was mentioned by all respondents combined.

2/ Data based on all schedules providing either the firms' volume of cotton handled during the season or the percentage of U. S. and foreign cotton handled, and exclude those schedules where there were no replies relating to these items.

3/ Includes replies such as "don't know," "can't say," and "this should depend upon the spinners."



A

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B

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C

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Figure 3.--Other suggestions for improving the U. S. bale. Foreign dealers, controllers, and spinners strongly recommended close-weave bagging as now used on many U. S. bales (lower bale in A above) and most foreign bales (B above and fig. 1) instead of the open-weave bagging now so extensively used (upper bales in A above and fig. 1). Revised sampling procedures at foreign ports--to avoid such large sample holes and the removal of the second band (C)--also has been suggested as a means of delivering better packaged U. S. bales to overseas users.



Table 23.--Information from foreign spinners: Bale surface cleaning practices of reporting plants or firms and volumes involved, U. S. and foreign cotton, 1957-58 season <sup>1/</sup> or 1958 calendar year <sup>1/</sup>

Item	U. S. cotton		Foreign cotton	
	Spinners <sup>2/</sup>	Percent	Spinners <sup>2/</sup>	Percent
<u>Plants or firms reporting:</u>				
Some bale surface cleaning <sup>3/</sup> .....	106	75.7	76	61.8
No bale surface cleaning <sup>3/</sup> .....	34	24.3	47	38.2
Total <sup>3/</sup> .....	140	100.0	123	100.0
Only the heads of some bales <sup>4/</sup> .....	21	21.6	18	27.2
Only the sides of some bales <sup>4/</sup> .....	29	29.9	19	28.8
Both the heads and sides of some bales <sup>4/</sup> .....	47	48.5	29	44.0
Total <sup>4/</sup> <sup>5/</sup> .....	97	100.0	66	100.0
<u>Bales consumed which reportedly received:</u>				
Some surface cleaning <sup>3/</sup> .....	326,917	60.6	201,305	42.0
No surface cleaning <sup>3/</sup> .....	212,770	39.4	277,547	58.0
Total <sup>3/</sup> .....	539,687	100.0	478,852	100.0
Some cleaning of heads only <sup>4/</sup> .....	24,837	13.6	15,724	21.2
Some cleaning of sides only <sup>4/</sup> .....	32,931	18.0	17,242	23.2
Some cleaning of both heads and sides <sup>4/</sup> .....	124,903	68.4	41,301	55.6
Total <sup>4/</sup> .....	182,671	100.0	74,267	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> In some schedules the data were reported on the August 1 to July 31 season and in some they were on a calendar year.

<sup>2/</sup> The smaller numbers for foreign than for U. S. cotton are apparently due at least in part to the fact that fewer respondents furnished any of this information for foreign cotton on the possible assumption that such information was of less importance since the study was primarily concerned with U. S. cotton.

<sup>3/</sup> Based on information supplied only by those respondents clearly indicating (a) the number of bales receiving at least some surface cleaning, and (b) the number receiving no surface cleaning.

<sup>4/</sup> Based on information given only on the short schedule, as the long schedule did not provide for this specific information.

<sup>5/</sup> Since a number of respondents reported more than one of these practices, these totals are (and the percentages are based on) the aggregate number of times these three items were given by the respondents rather than the total number of respondents supplying this information.

Table 24.--Information from foreign spinners: Respondents giving specified information on bale packages and surface conditions, U. S. and foreign cotton, 1957-58 season or 1958 calendar year 1/

Items	U. S. cotton		Foreign cotton	
	<u>Spinners</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Spinners</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Caused extra costs in storing and handling (or moving) bales:</u>				
Those indicating "yes".....	47	27.2	30	17.8
Those indicating "no".....	104	60.1	112	66.2
Those not replying or with no opinion.....	22	12.7	27	16.0
Total.....	173	100.0	169	100.0
<u>Caused extra costs resulting from bale surface cleaning:</u>				
Those indicating "yes".....	107	61.2	76	45.2
Those indicating "no".....	35	20.0	54	32.2
Those not replying or with no opinion.....	33	18.8	38	22.6
Total.....	175	100.0	168	100.0
<u>Caused extra costs in processing <u>2/</u>:</u>				
Those indicating "yes".....	26	21.3	17	14.4
Those indicating "no".....	64	52.4	63	53.4
Those not replying or with no opinion.....	32	26.3	38	32.2
Total.....	122	100.0	118	100.0
All cotton				
<u>Adversely affected quality of yarn and/or fabrics <u>3/</u>:</u>				
Those indicating "yes".....	32		25.2	
Those indicating "no".....	75		59.1	
Those not replying or with no opinion.....	20		15.7	
Total.....	127		100.0	

1/ In some schedules the data were based on the August 1 to July 31 season and in some they were on a calendar year.

2/ Excludes answers not indicating U. S. or foreign cotton.

3/ The information obtained regarding this question included little or no indication of the origin of the cotton.



Table 25.--Information from foreign spinners: Respondents indicating bale surface contaminants most frequently encountered, and types and causes of bale package shortcomings, United States and foreign cotton, 1958 calendar year <sup>1/</sup>

Item	U. S. cotton		Foreign cotton	
	Spinners <sup>2/</sup>	Percent	Spinner <sup>2/</sup>	Percent
<u>Bale surface contaminant:</u>				
Rust spots.....	62	22.2	31	18.5
Ink dye.....	45	16.1	26	15.5
Hard fibers.....	41	14.7	24	14.3
Weather stains.....	41	14.7	29	17.3
Grease spots.....	32	11.5	20	11.9
Colored fibers.....	19	6.8	19	11.3
Tar.....	14	5.0	11	6.5
Other.....	25	9.0	8	4.7
Total replies.....	279	100.0	168	100.0
<u>Types and causes of shortcomings:</u>				
Covers provide inadequate protection from dirt, grease, etc. ....	58	15.7	19	11.0
Bagging patterns too small to adequately cover heads and sides of bales.....	45	12.1	15	8.7
Nonrustproof ties and buckles.....	44	11.9	23	13.3
Covers provide inadequate protection from water.....	42	11.3	15	8.7
Sampled too many times.....	28	7.5	12	6.9
Method of sampling bales.....	27	7.3	10	5.8
Covers not sufficiently durable....	23	6.2	17	9.8
Dirty cars, trucks, and ships used in transporting cotton.....	20	5.4	11	6.4
Size and shape of bale.....	18	4.9	9	5.2
Ties and buckles not sufficiently durable.....	15	4.0	9	5.2
Dirty warehouses.....	12	3.2	10	5.8
Cotton stored in open.....	8	2.2	11	6.4
Method of handling.....	6	1.6	3	1.7
Other.....	25	6.7	9	5.2
Total replies.....	371	100.0	173	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> Based only on the long schedule, as the short schedule did not provide for this information.

<sup>2/</sup> These data are (and the percentages are based on) the aggregate number of times the items were given by the respondents. The smaller numbers for foreign than for U. S. cotton are apparently due at least in part to the fact that fewer respondents furnished any of this information for foreign cotton on the possible assumption that such information was of less importance since the study was primarily concerned with U. S. cotton.

Table 26.--Information from foreign spinners: Respondents indicating bales from specified countries other than the U. S. provided the most desirable and least desirable cotton bale package, 1958 calendar year 1/

Origin of cotton	Most desirable <u>2/</u>		Least desirable <u>2/</u>	
	Spinners	Percent	Spinners	Percent
Brazil <u>3/</u> .....	3	2.9	3	5.8
Egypt.....	7	6.9	0	--
El Salvador.....	5	4.9	0	--
French Equatorial Africa.....	8	7.8	0	--
Greece <u>3/</u> .....	3	2.9	5	9.6
Iran <u>3/</u> .....	4	4.0	1	1.9
Mexico <u>3/</u> .....	3	2.9	14	26.9
Nicaragua.....	3	2.9	0	--
Nigeria.....	3	2.9	0	--
Pakistan <u>3/</u> .....	5	4.9	4	7.7
Peru <u>3/</u> .....	3	2.9	3	5.8
Sudan.....	7	6.9	0	--
Syria <u>3/</u> .....	7	6.9	1	1.9
Tanganyika.....	4	3.9	0	--
Turkey.....	0	--	19	36.6
Uganda.....	13	12.8	0	--
U. S. S. R. ....	11	10.8	0	--
Other.....	<u>4/</u> 13	12.8	2	3.8
Total replies.....	102	100.0	52	100.0

1/ Based only on the long schedule, as the short schedule did not provide for this information.

2/ The respondents were asked to give (a) the country (or countries) "other than the United States" with the most and the least desirable bale package, and (b) how those bales compared with U. S. bales. Unfortunately, very few of the respondents answered the second part of the question, but most of those who did indicated they felt that U. S. bales were about the same or worse than those from the country (or countries) listed as the least desirable.

3/ The fact that these countries appear in both the most desirable and the least desirable categories is due to a number of factors. Probably the most important of these are: (a) Differences among the spinners as to the countries or the areas within countries from which they obtain cotton together with differences in both the quality of the cotton used and the products manufactured, and (b) wide variations in the package and surface conditions of bales obtained from some of the individual exporting countries.

4/ Includes a few countries, practically all of which were listed by only one or two respondents.

Table 27.--Information from foreign spinners: Estimated costs of specified preprocessing practices, United States and foreign cotton, 1957-58 season or 1958 calendar year

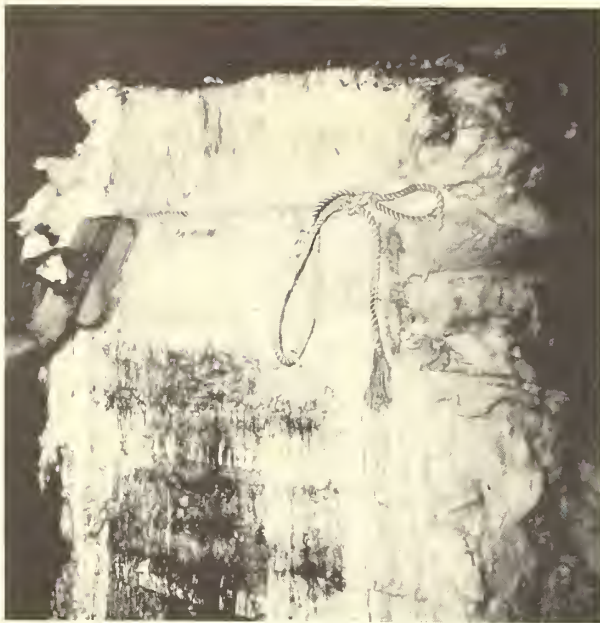
Practice and item of cost	Cost per bale cleaned <sup>2/</sup>		Cost per bale consumed <sup>2/</sup>	
	U. S. cotton	Other cotton	U. S. cotton	Other cotton
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
<u>Cleaning of bale surfaces:</u>				
Labor.....	4.2	1.7	2.6	0.8
Loss in value of cotton.....	10.7	7.3	4.5	2.9
Total.....	14.9	9.0	7.1	3.7
<u>Picking etc. of bale covers:</u>				
Labor.....	<sup>3/</sup> 5.5	<sup>3/</sup> 2.4	5.5	2.4
Loss in value of cotton picked from and left in covers.....	<sup>3/</sup> 9.1	<sup>3/</sup> 5.3	9.1	5.3
Total.....	<sup>3/</sup> 14.6	<sup>3/</sup> 7.7	14.6	7.7
<u>Bale surface cleaning and bale cover costs combined:</u>				
Labor.....	<sup>3/</sup> 9.7	<sup>3/</sup> 4.1	8.1	3.2
Loss in value of cotton.....	<sup>3/</sup> 19.8	<sup>3/</sup> 12.6	13.6	8.2
Total.....	<sup>3/</sup> 29.5	<sup>3/</sup> 16.7	21.7	11.4

<sup>1/</sup> In some schedules the data were reported on the August 1 to July 31 season and in some they were on a calendar year.

<sup>2/</sup> Cost estimates in local currencies converted to U. S. cent equivalents at the official rates of exchange.

<sup>3/</sup> Assumes that, on the average, the costs associated with picking the bale covers were the same for the bales that were cleaned as for all bales consumed.





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D

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Figure 4.--How the bale package and surface conditions affect foreign spinners. Poorly protected bales (A) usually mean extra costs to mills both from hand brushing or picking the contaminated surfaces and from more waste cotton. Well protected bales (B) generally involve no such costs. One reason mills prefer closely woven bagging (C, right) is because less cotton adheres to it when the bagging is removed. This means less labor and less down-graded cotton when the bagging is picked (D).

Table 28.--Major estimated and unestimated costs attributed largely or entirely to deficiencies in the U. S. cotton export bale package and surface conditions, mainly as of 1957-58

Item	Cost per bale <sup>1/</sup>
	<u>Cents</u>
<u>Estimated items:</u>	
1. Patches added at domestic high-density compresses.....:	30.0
2. Inspection services at domestic ports.....:	3.0
3. Repairing and cleaning bales rejected by domestic port inspectors.....:	2.5
4. Marine insurance claims <sup>2/</sup> .....:	21.0
5. Labor in cleaning bale surfaces at foreign mills.....:	<sup>3/</sup> 2.6
6. Loss in value of cotton removed in cleaning bale surfaces at foreign mills.....:	<sup>3/</sup> 4.5
7. Labor in picking bale covers at foreign mills.....:	<sup>3/</sup> 5.5
8. Loss in value of cotton picked from and left in bale covers at foreign mills.....:	<sup>3/</sup> 9.1
Total of estimated items.....:	78.5
<u>Unestimated items:</u>	
9. Reduced spinning and weaving efficiencies and lower yarn and fabric qualities.....:	<sup>4/</sup>
10. Pilferage and other losses of fiber from sample holes and uncovered heads while bales are moving the mills.:	<sup>4/</sup>
11. Added labor and space for handling and storing ragged, misshaped, or exceptionally large or small bales.....:	<sup>4/</sup>
12. Extra labor in determining the amount of tare per lot.:	<sup>4/</sup>
13. Extra labor in removing and at times replacing bands for sampling up to 100 percent of the bales per lot <sup>5/</sup> ....:	<sup>4/</sup>
14. Added costs to foreign spinners because some of the extra costs in the above items, with any accompanying pyramiding, are passed on to them.....:	<sup>4/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> The cost estimates are rough approximations per bale exported except for items 5 to 8, which are per bale consumed by those mills cooperating in the study that furnished usable cost data.

<sup>2/</sup> An undetermined amount of the insurance claims paid go directly or indirectly to foreign mills. This offsets at least a part of both the estimated and unestimated extra costs to these mills and to foreign consumers, resulting from bale deficiencies covered in this report.

<sup>3/</sup> The costs for these items are based on estimates in local currencies converted to U. S. cent equivalents at the official rates of exchange. Had the wages (in cents per hour) of opening-room workers in cooperating foreign mills averaged the same as those of comparable workers in domestic mills, the labor costs for items 5 and 7 would have been roughly 3-1/4 times as much as those indicated.

<sup>4/</sup> Not estimated because of insufficient information.

<sup>5/</sup> The costs that would be eliminated if bands were spaced so that none needed removing before sampling.



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