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Master
Specification
No. 101a

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

George K. Burgess, Director

CIRCULAR OF THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS, No. 239

[Issued June 15, 1925]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR
FLAX PACKING

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 101a

[Revised June 15, 1925]

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on December 29, 1923, for the use of the Departments and Independent Establishments of the Government in the purchase of flax packing.

CONTENTS

	Page
I. Grade.....	1
II. Material and workmanship.....	1
III. General requirements.....	1
IV. Detail requirements.....	2
V. Method of inspection and test.....	2
VI. Marking and packing.....	2
VII. Additional information.....	2
VIII. General specifications.....	2

I. GRADE

Flax packing shall be furnished in but one grade.

II. MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

Packing shall be made from well-cleaned, best selected long-line flax, braided, squared, and shall be thoroughly and evenly impregnated with pure tallow. It shall be free from flax tow, warp or core, or other foreign fibers or substitutes, and from oils and grease, other than pure tallow.

III. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

See Section IV.

IV. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. The length of staple shall be such that when a section of packing 20 inches long is carefully unraveled and combed out with a coarse comb it shall give a brush in which 50 per cent of the fibers shall be at least 8 inches in length, the comb to be used in producing brush should have teeth not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{16}$ inch thick, and set 8 to the inch, and used, never with a straight drag or violent motion, but rolled or tipped toward operator, and only one or two plies to be manipulated at a time; after each ply has been so handled, the whole body should be straightened out together and then gently combed out as a whole.

2. The fibers shall be stained with the chloriodide solution and examined with a microscope. The absence of cross markings, approximately at right angles to the length of the fibers and a distinct yellowish coloration, indicate the presence of jute.

3. The finished packing shall contain not less than 35 nor more than 50 per cent of tallow.

V. METHOD OF INSPECTION AND TEST

The inspector shall select a sample 20 inches long from each lot of 1,000 pounds or less of each size.

VI. MARKING AND PACKING

Material shall be marked and packed as called for in the proposal.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

No details specified.

VIII. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

No details specified.

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