

WOOL GRADING AND MARKING RULES

1. Short title and application:

- (1) These rules may be called the Wool Grading and Marking Rules, 1975.
- (2) They shall apply to un-manufactured wool obtained from sheep in any part of India and to wool produced in India.

2. Definitions.- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:--

- (a) "authorised packer" means a person holding a certificate of authorisation issued under sub-rule (1) of rule 3 of the General Grading and Marking Rules 1937;
- (b) "carded", in relation to any grade designation of wool, means wool which has been subjected to the process of carding for eliminating burrs or sticks;
- (c) "carded wool" means wool containing an admixture of more than 25 per cent of any wool which is carded;
- (cc) "Certificate of Authorisation" means the Certificate of Authorisation issued under rule 3 of the General Grading & Marking rules, 1937.
- (d) "Clipped", in relation to any grade designation of wool, means wool obtained from the body of sheep by shearing with a pair of hand shears or a shearing machine;
- (d) "count" means number given to wool indicating its fineness and spin ability.
- (e) "ginned", in relation to any grade designation of wool, means short wool fibers recovered from burrs (Scissor out from burry raw wool) by passing them through a ginning machine;
- (f) "hill (pahari) wool" means wool known in the trade as pahari wool;
- (g) "hill (pahari) wool (clipped)" means such wool obtained by clipping from living sheep;
- (h) "hill (pahari) wool (pulled)" means such wool obtained from the pelts of slaughtered sheep by pulling out the fibers either with or without the aid of salt or depilatory solutions;
- (i) "Lot" means the quantity of wool, the quality of which is determined by drawing a representative sample from that quantity and analyzing that sample as per prescribed procedure;

- (j) "Mixed wool (clipped-carded)" means clipped wool with an admixture of carded wool up to 25 per cent;
- (k) "mixed wool (clipped pulled)" means clipped wool with an admixture of pulled wool up to 25 per cent;
- (l) "processed wool", in relation to any grade designation of wool, means wool which has been subjected to a mechanical process of manufacture or pre manufacture except carding and ginning done for cleaning purposes;
- (m) "pulled wool", in relation to any grade designation of wool, means wool which has been removed from the pelts slaughtered sheep by pulling out the fibers with or without the aid of salt or depilatory solutions;
- (n) "Schedule", means a schedule appended to these rules;
- (o) "Scoured wool", means wool which has been subjected to mechanical scouring with a detergent in a scouring plant;
- (p) "South Indian tannery and Aden type wool" means wool removed from the pelts of unimproved mutton breed of sheep from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mysore and Tamilnadu and from the country Aden, by pulling out fibbers from skins which have been pasted with or soaked in a depilatory solution of slaked lime;
- (q) "tannery wool (limed)" means wool removed from the pelts of slaughtered sheep with the aid of slaked lime as a depilatory;
- (r) "diameter/fineness" means fibre width or mean fibre diameter as prescribed in Schedule VI-A.

3. Grade designations. --- The grade designations to indicate the characteristics and quality of wool of specified trade descriptions shall be those set out in column 1 of Schedules I to VI-A.

4. Characteristics of various grade designation.-

- (1) The special characteristics of the various grade designations shall be as set out against each designation in columns 2,3 and 4 of Schedules I to VI-A".
- (2) The general characteristics of the various grade designations shall be as under:-
 - (i) Wool of the trade description Indian "clipped wool" shall be free from ginned, carded, pulled, limed, bleached and processed wool, wool

- waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool,
- (ii) Wool of the trade description Indian "Pulled wool" shall be free from clipped, carded, ginned, limed, bleached and processed wool, wool waste or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool.
 - (iii) Wool of the trade description "South Indian tannery wool (limed)" shall be free from clipped, ginned, carded, pulled, bleached and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool.
 - (iv) Wool of the trade description "South Indian tannery and Aden type wool" shall be free from clipped, ginned, carded, pulled, bleached and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool.
 - (v) Wool of the trade description, Indian "mixed wool (clipped pulled)" shall be free from ginned, pulled, limed, bleached and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool,
 - (vi) Wool of the trade description, Indian "mixed wool (clipped pulled)" shall be free from ginned, limed, carded, bleached, and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre moth infested/burnt wool,
 - (vii) Wool of the trade description, Indian "hill (pahari) wool (clipped)" shall be free from ginned, carded, pulled, limed, plains' clipped, bleached, and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fiber or moth infested/burnt wool.
 - (viii) Wool of the trade description, Indian "hill (pahari) wool (pulled)" shall be free from ginned, limed, carded, bleached, plains'- pulled or clipped and processed wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fiber or moth infested/burnt wool,
 - (ix) Wool of the trade description, Indian "ginned" wool shall be free from carded, pulled, limed and bleached wool, wool waste, or any other animal or vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool.
 - (x) Wool of the trade description, "scoured wool" shall be free from any animal other than sheep and vegetable fibre or synthetic fibre or moth infested/burnt wool,
 - (xi) Wool of the various trade descriptions shall be reasonably free from burrs, thorns, sticks, sand, dust or any other extraneous matter and shall also be dry in feel and homogeneous in characters.
5. **Grade designation mark** - The grade designation mark shall consist of a label:-
 - (a) bearing a design as shown in Schedule VII and
 - (b) Indicating;
 - (i) place and date of packing;
 - (ii) signature of the Inspecting Officer;
 - (iii) grade;
 - (iv) colour;
 - (v) yield percentage;
 - (vi) count;
 - (vii) place and date of marking;
 - (viii) signature of Inspecting Officer.
 6. **Baling and marking.**-- Baling and marking of wool shall be done at wool pressing centers or ports according to the instructions issued, from time to time, by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India.
 7. **Inspection.**-- Grade designation of bales shall be declared after testing samples of wool for colour, type and yield in either of the two Wool Testing Laboratories of the Directorate of Marketing & Inspection at Bombay and Jamnagar.
 8. **Colour---**
 - (a) The colour of wool of the various grade designations shall be as prescribed in Schedules I to VI.
 - (b) The colour of the sample drawn in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India from time to time shall be compared with the replica of the boxed wool fibers colour standards and the colour of the fibre in the lot shall be taken to be the colour of the boxed wool fibre colour standard to which the colour of the sample most nearly approximates.
 - (c) If the colour of the sample is found to be deeper than pale yellow, the colour of the fibre in the lot shall be taken to be yellow. If the sample cannot be classified under any of the colour groups, it shall be taken to be all coloured.
 9. **Laboratory scoured yield per cent of wool.**

Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or an officer authorised by him in this behalf as an appendix to the Certificate of Agmark Grading.

- (a) The yield of laboratory scoured wool of the various grade designations shall be as prescribed in Schedules I to VI.
- (b) No wool having a yield less than the minimum prescribed under column 3 of the said Schedules for any grade designation shall be allowed for export.
- (c) The percentage of yield of laboratory scoured wool shall be determined in accordance with the methods in force from time to time.

10. Vegetable matter:-

- (a) The percentage of vegetable matter present in wool of the various grade designations shall be as specified in Schedules I to VI.
- (b) No wool containing vegetable matter in excess of the percentage specified shall be allowed for export.
- (c) The percentage of vegetable matter shall be determined in the manner approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India.

11. Type: - The type of the wool shall be determined by examining the sample drawn for colour as specified in rule 8.

12. Method of packing :- The wool shall be press-packed in bales with complete covering of new gunny cloth and secured with sufficient number of iron hoops, tightly placed around the bale of customary commercial weights of 100 kgs. to 200 kgs.

13. Method of marking :- The grade designation mark shall be applied only on full or half pressed bales, as the case may be, in a manner approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India:

Provided that an authorised packer may stamp or write his private trade mark on the bale or package, if such private trade mark represents the same colour; quality and grade of wool, as that indicated on the Agmark label and in the Certificate of Agmark Grading and is duly approved by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India to that effect.

14. Certificate of Grading:-

- (1) A Certificate of Agmark Grading shall be issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or an officer authorised by him in this behalf on a written request from the authorised packer.
- (2) The Certificate of Agmark Grading shall be issued in the form given in Schedule VIII.
- (3) In the case of lots of scoured wool, a conditioning certificate shall be issued by the

15. “Special conditions of authorisation —

- (1) Wool of one grade only shall be packed in one lot.
- (2) The under mentioned conditions shall be the conditions of every Certificate of Authorisation issued for the purpose of these rules, namely:-
 - (a) the premises of wool merchants and baling presses shall be clean and tidy and shall provide adequate space, facilities for cleaning, sorting, baling, weighing, storage, official inspection and marking of wool;
 - (b) all instructions regarding method of sampling, testing, marking and inspection of wool before and after the pressing and maintenance of records thereof, issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India from time to time shall be strictly observed by all concerned;
 - (c) grade designation marks shall only be applied to the articles mentioned in the Certificate of Authorisation and at the premises therein mentioned;
 - (d) during the operation of the Certificate of Authorisation, the holder thereof shall, at all reasonable times, give access to the premises named therein to any person duly authorised by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or by the Central Government and shall afford him facilities for ascertaining that marking is being correctly performed;
 - (e) the holder of the Certificate of Authorisation shall keep a record of the number of packages marked with each grade designation mark and shall permit any person duly authorised by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or by the Central Government to examine the records;
 - (f) the holder of the Certificate of Authorisation shall permit any duly authorised person by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or by the Central Government to take samples of any graded produce or to open and inspect any package bearing a grade designation mark, provided that all samples shall be paid for;
 - (g) any person authorised in this behalf by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or by the Central

Government may cancel or remove a grade designation mark from a graded produce (should such produce be found by such person as not to comply with the definition of quality prescribed for that article; provided that whenever grade designation marks are removed from graded produce belonging to distributors, and not to authorised packers, the latter shall, when so directed by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India, make good to the former any loss sustained as result of the removal of the grade designation mark, the loss being estimated on the basis of the additional value that properly graded produce would have obtained in the market over and above the current market value of the corresponding quantity of the upgraded product);

- (h) all the rules made under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937 (and all instructions regarding methods of sampling, analysis, submission of periodical returns, etc., which may be issued from time to time, by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India), shall be observed;
- (i) any Certificate of Authorisation may be cancelled, revoked, modified or suspended by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or by any other person authorised by the Central Government in that behalf, provided that 14 days notice in writing shall be given to the Certificate holder at the address stated on the Certificate of Authorisation and an opportunity given him for showing cause why his Certificate of Authorisation shall not be cancelled, revoked, modified or suspended;
- (j) any holder of a Certificate of Authorisation may, with the written consent of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the

Government of India, use a replica of the Agmark design on his business papers and catalogues;

- (k) any stencil, rubber stamp, punch or other instrument or label required for marking graded produce in the prescribed manner shall be obtained only from the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India, or a person authorised by him, on payment of such charges as the Central Government may, from time to time, fix in this behalf, shall be kept in safe custody by the holder of the Certificate of Authorisation, and shall, so far as may be, be returned to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or such authorised person when the Certificate of Authorisation ceases to be valid;
- (l) the issue or use of grade designation mark labels or any stencil, rubber stamp, punch or other instrument required for marking graded produce in the prescribed manner may be withheld or withdrawn by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India or a person authorised by him in this behalf without any notice, for such period as he may consider expedient in the interest of better marketing, if he is satisfied or has reasons to believe that the authorised packer is not applying, or is not likely to apply, grade designation marks correctly : and
- (m) the holder of a Certificate of Authorisation shall pay such charges as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time, towards the expenses incurred in connection with measures for enforcing the quality control of scheduled articles marked with grade designation marks including testing of samples and inspection of such articles or with any publicity work carried out to promote the sale of any class of such articles.”

SCHEDULE I

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Clipped and Mixed Wools

Grade Designation	Colour of fibre	Special Characteristics			Remarks
		Laboratory Scoured yield per cent of wool	Maximum vegetable matter		
1	2	3	4	5	
A. CLIPPED					
White	White	over 80 over 85 over 90	5%		If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 Over 90	5%		
Pale Yellow	Pale Yellow	Over 70 Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 Over 90	5%		
Yellow	Yellow				
Colored	Colored	Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%		
B. MIXED					
White	White	over 80 over 85 over 90	5%		If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 74 Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 over 90	5%		
Pale Yellow	Pale Yellow				
Yellow	Yellow				
Colored	Colored	Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%		Explanation:- The term ‘Mixed’ shall mean admixture of pulled wool and/or carded wool with clipped wool. It shall be declared as Mixed if the admixture is in excess of 10%. If the percentage of admixture of pulled and/or carded wool exceeds 25%, it shall be declared as pulled wool or carded wool, as the case may be depending upon the type of admixture.

SCHEDULE II

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Pulled Wool

Grade Designation	Colour of fibre	Special Characteristics			Remarks
		Laboratory Scoured yield per cent of wool	Maximum vegetable matter		
1	2	3	4	5	
A. CLIPPED					
Pulled White	White	over 80 over 85 over 90	5%		If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Pulled Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 Over 90			
Pulled pale Yellow	Pale Yellow	Over 74 Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 over 90	5%		
Pulled Yellow					
Pulled Coloured	Coloured	Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%		Explanation : "Pulled Wool" means other than limed pulled wool"

SCHEDULE III

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Tannery Wool (Limed)

Grade Designation	Colour of fibre	Special Characteristics			Remarks
		Laboratory Scoured yield per cent of wool	Maximum vegetable matter		
1	2	3	4	5	

(a) Wool other than South Indian Tannery and Aden Type

Limed White	White	over 75 over 80 over 85 over 90	5%		If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and upto 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Limed Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 72/1/2 Over 75 Over 80 Over 85 Over 90			
Limed pale Yellow Limed Yellow	Pale Yellow Yellow				

Limed Coloured	Coloured	Over 65 Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%
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(b) South Indian Tannery and Aden Type Wool

Tannery White	White	Over 60 Over 65 Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%
Tannery Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 60 Over 65 Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%
Tannery Pale Yellow Tannery Yellow	Pale Yellow Yellow	Over 60 Over 65 Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%
Tannery Coloured	Coloured	Over 55 Over 60 Over 65 Over 70 Over 75	5%

SCHEDULE IV

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Hill (Pahari) Wool, Greasy Clipped and Pulled

Grade Designation	Colour of fibre	Special Characteristics		Remarks
		Laboratory Scoured yield per cent of wool	Maximum vegetable matter	
1	2	3	4	5
Hill White Pulled Hill White	White	Over 60 Over 65 Over 70	5%	If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Hill Tinged White Pulled Hill Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 75		
Hill Coloured Pulled Hill Coloured	Coloured	Over 55 Over 60 Over 65 Over 70	5%	

SCHEDULE V

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Ginned Wool

Grade Designation	Colour of fibre	Special Characteristics		Remarks
		Laboratory Scoured yield per cent of wool	Maximum vegetable matter	
1	2	3	4	5
Ginned White	White	Over 80 Over 85 Over 90	5%	If the vegetable matter content is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading
Ginned Tinged White	Tinged White	Over 77 Over 80 Over 85 Over 90		
Ginned Pale Yellow	Pale Yellow	Over 74 Over 77	5%	
Ginned Yellow	Yellow	Over 80 Over 85 Over 90		
Ginned Coloured	Coloured	Over 70 Over 75 Over 80	5%	

SCHEDULE VI

(See Rules 3,4,8,9 and 10)

Grade Designation and Special Characteristics of Indian Scoured Wool

Grade Designation	Colour of fiber	Laboratory Scoured yield percentage	Maximum vegetable matter	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Scoured White	White	Over 95%	5%	1. If the vegetable matter is over 3% and up to 5%, it shall be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark Grading. 2. Any Wool having percentage conditioned weight less than the minimum prescribed under column 3 shall not be allowed for export.
Scoured Tinged White	Tinged White			
Scoured Pale Yellow	Pale Yellow			
Scoured Yellow	Yellow			
Scoured Coloured	Coloured			

- (1) "The net weight and the Conditioned weight of the lot in the lots of the scoured wool shall also be indicated in the Certificate of Agmark grading in kg."
- (2) "The conditioned weight of a wool lot in kg. shall be declared for a specific country if the packer declared the name of the country to which the lot (wool) is consigned."
- IS : 1349-1964

SCHEDULE VI-A

[See Rules 2(dd), 2(r), 3, 4, 8, 9 and 10]

***Fineness grades of Indian Woods

Count	Range for average fibre diameter in microns
48 S	Under 34.40
44 S	34.41 to 36.20
40 S	36.21 to 38.60
36 S	38.61 to 40.80
[Coarser than 36S]	Over 40.81

* Schedule I to VI

*** IS : 5910-1977

SCHEDULE VII

(See Rule 5)

Grade Designation Mark to be applied to wool bales shall contain the following design

Sr. No. W..... Place, and

Date of Packing
(Signature of Inspecting Officer)

Grade

Colour.....

Yield Percentage.....

Count.....

Place and Date.....
of Marking (Signature of Inspecting Officer.)

Sr. No. W.

SCHEDULE VIII

[See Rule 14(2)]

Government Of India

Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation

(Department of Rural Development)

DIRECTORATE OF MARKETING & INSPECTION

Certificate of Agmark Grading

No.

Certified that the wool bales, the particulars of which are given below have been graded in accordance with the Wool Grading and Marking Rules, 1956.

Name of the authorised packer.....

Number and date of previous certificate, if any in respect of
bales mentioned below :

PARTICULARS OF BALES

Number of bales :
Description of bales with particulars
of grades and marks
Agmark Grade
Date of Inspection
Yield percentage
Count
Type
Colour
Agmark label numbers from to
Authorised packer's shipping numbers from to
Authorised packer's marks
Remarks, if any

(Signature of the Officer with stamp)

Place :

Date :

Original meant of Customs use.
Duplicate not meant for Customs use.
Office copy.

SCHEDULE IX

[See Rule 14(3)]

Government Of India

(Ministry of Rural Reconstruction)

DIRECTORATE OF MARKETING & INSPECTION

(Stamp of the Issuing Office)

Conditioning Certificate

Test Identification

Wool Type	:	Scoured wool
Numbers of bales	:	
Number of Agmark labels issued	:	
Total weight	:	
Gross (Kg.)	:	
Declared tare (Kg.)	:	
Net (Kg.)	:	

Test results

1. Core sample weight	:	Gms
2. Oven dry weight	:	Gms
3. Loss	:	Gms
4. Moisture content	:	%
5. Regain	:	%
6. Net weight, Oven dry	:	Kg. or %
7. Official Regain of %	:	Kg. or %
Invoice weight as per test	:	Kg. or %
Gain	:	Kg. or %
Original net weight	:	Kg. or 100%

Date:

(Signature of the Officer with stamp.)

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- (1) Principal rules published as S.O. 4096 dated 4-9-1975 in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3 (ii) dated 20-9-1975.
(2) First amendment published as S.O. 1671 dated 24-2-1982 in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3 (ii) dated 8-5-1982.
(3) Second amendment published as S.O. 97 dated 28-12-1983 in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3 (ii) dated 14-1-1984.