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Superseding  
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September 2, 2008

## NIH SPECIFICATION

Laboratory Animal Bedding, Hardwood, Screened  
(In Paper Bags)

NIH Stock Number 63-3600

### 1. SCOPE

- 1.1 This specification covers commercially available processed hardwood products to be used as a contact bedding for laboratory animals.

### 2. APPLICABLE

- 2.1 The following document of the issue in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein.

National Institutes of Health Standards  
NIH Std No. 4, latest issue in effect - Laboratory Animal  
Bedding, Processing, Packaging and Facility Sanitation

(Copies of NIH Specifications and Standards required by suppliers in connection with specific procurement functions should be obtained from the procuring activity or as directed by the Contracting Officer).

### 3. REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Material - The raw material (untreated) processed for the products covered by this specification shall be from beech, birch or maple or any mixture thereof. No other species of wood will be acceptable nor will the presence of other species be permitted with any single species or mixture of the acceptable species.
- 3.2 Processing - The processing (or Manufacture) of the raw material used in these products shall be in strict accordance with NIH Standard No. 4, latest issue in effect. When delivered, the bedding shall contain not more than 12%, moisture based on the determination as specified in the said standard.
- 3.3 Form - The finished product shall be a cube cut type and shall be free of shavings and slivers with a minimum amount of splinters. After a 100 g sample is shaken in a Ro-Tap machine for three minutes, not more than  $10 \pm 1.0$  % (by weight) shall be retained on a #8 U. S. Standard Sieve (ASTM specifications), nor will more than  $0.2 \pm 0.5$  % dust shall pass through a #50 sieve (ASTM specifications).

4. INSPECTION AND TEST PROCEDURES

4.1 Quality Assurance - Bedding shall be inspected in accordance with Section 3.9 of NIH Standard No. 4, latest issue in effect.

4.2 Responsibility for Inspection - Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as otherwise specified, the supplier may utilize his own facilities or any other commercial laboratory acceptable to the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in the specifications where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

5.1 Bags and materials used in packaging the bedding shall be two-ply, autoclavable and comply with the requirements in NIH Standard No. 4, latest issue in effect.