

# REFERENCE

# Plant exports guide—raw baled cotton inspection techniques

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# Purpose of this document

This document has been written for authorised officers (AOs) as a reference guide on techniques to use when inspecting raw baled cotton for export.

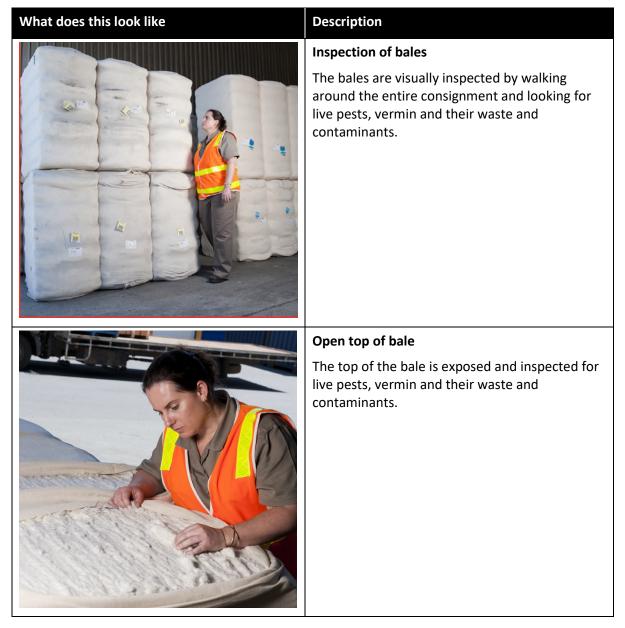
# Before you start

Before starting their inspection, the AO ensures that they:

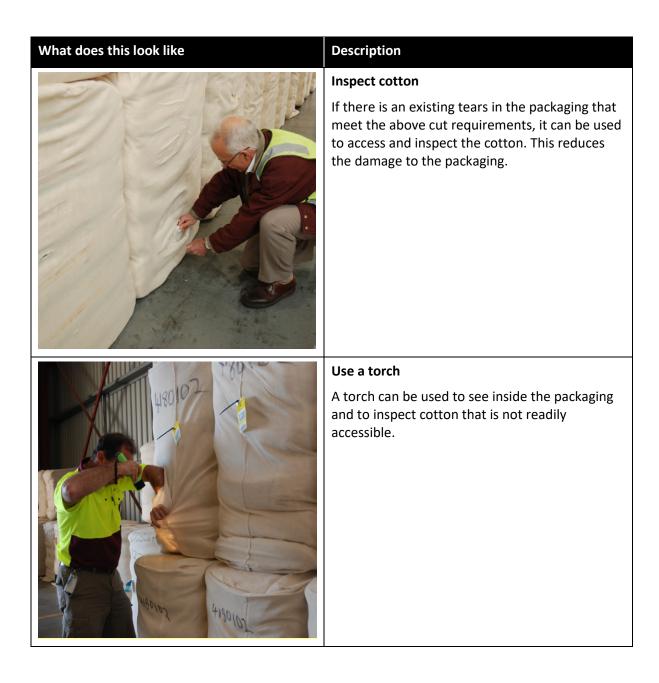
- check the importing country requirements to determine the requirements for the inspection
- have the correct inspection equipment
- have access to PEMS
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- have the current relevant instructional and reference material.

#### Inspecting cotton products

The following table illustrates and describes methods of taking samples of cotton products for inspection.



What does this look like	Description
	Inspect top of bale
	The compacted cotton is teased apart with fingers to check inside the top of the bale for live pests, vermin and their waste and contaminants.
	Inspect side of bale
	Cotton samples can be inspected from elsewhere within the bale by making a 20 cm horizontal cut in the packaging on the side of the bale then a second 20 cm vertical cut to make an L-shape.
	Inspect inside packaging
	The packaging material is checked from inside for pests and contaminants.



# What to do if you find a contaminant, pest or disease symptom

The Work Instruction: *Inspection of cotton for export* outlines the procedures to follow if contaminants, pests or disease symptoms are found during an inspection.

#### Contaminants, pests, and diseases

- Contaminants include
  - $\circ \quad \text{sand and soil} \quad$
  - o objectionable material such as metal and plastic
  - o weed seeds
  - o vermin carcasses and their waste.
- Pests and disease symptoms include
  - o live pests, for example insects
  - o live vermin.

# **Related material**

- Export Control Act 2020
- Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Rules 2021
- Manual of Importing Country Requirement (Micor Plants)
- Plant exports operations manual (PEOM)
  - Guideline: Inspection of cotton for export
  - Work Instruction: Inspecting cotton for export
  - Reference: Plant exports guide equipment
  - Reference: Plant exports guide specimen collection

#### **Contact information**

- Authorised Officer Hotline: 1800 851 305
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#### **Document information**

The following table contains administrative metadata.

Instructional Material Library document ID	Instructional material owner
IMLS-9-8009	Director, Grain and Seeds Exports Program, Plant Export Operations Branch

#### **Version history**

The following table details the published date and amendment details for this document.

Version	Date	Amendment details
1	16/11/2021	First publication of this reference.