NIH SPECIFICATION

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

NIH Stock No.
Type I -63-3840
Type II-63-3844
Type-III-63-3850

1.   SCOPE

1.1   This specification covers a commercially available processed form of corncob 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 processed for the products covered by this specification shall be corn cobs that are relatively free of grain, corn husks, and other extraneous materials.

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 at least 8 but not more than 10% moisture based on the determination as specified in the said standard.

3.3   Form - The finished product shall be available in three types (sizes).

Type I - (Fine) The corn cobs shall be ground so that after a 100 gram representative sample has been shaken on the Ro-tap for 30 seconds, not more than 5% (by Weight) shall be retained on a No. 8 U.S.

Standard Sieve (ASTM Specifications); nor will more than 5% (by weight) pass through a No. 18 U.S. Standard Sieve. The weight of a cubic foot or product shall be at least 26 lbs but shall not exceed 30 lbs.

Type II (1/4" corncob)- The corn cobs shall be ground so that after a 100 gram representative sample has been shaken on a Ro-tap for 30 seconds, not more than 1.0% (by weight) shall be retained on a 5/16" U.S. Standard Sieve (ASTM specifications); nor will more than 6% (by weight) pass through a No. 8 U.S. Standard Sieve.   The weight of a cubic foot of product shall be 25 ± 2 lbs.

Type III - (Combination) The corn cobs shall be ground so that after a 100 gram representative sample has been shaken on a Ro-tap for 30 seconds, not more than 5% (by weight) shall be retained on a 1/4 inch U.S. Standard Sieve (ASTM Specifications); nor will more than 5% (by weight) pass through a No. 18 U.S. Standard Sieve. This weight of a cubic foot of product shall be at least 18 lbs but shall not exceed 22 lbs.

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   Packaging - Bedding shall be packaged 40 lbs ($\pm$ 1 lb) per bag.   Bags shall be packed so that a 30% minimum increase by volume shall not burst or put undue stress on the bags. Bags and materials used in packaging the bedding shall comply with the requirements in NIH Standard No. 4, latest issue in effect.

5.2 Marking - Each bag of product shall be marked as follows (as applicable)

Bedding, Corncob, Type I
NIH 63-3840

Bedding, Corncob, Type II
NIH 63-3844

Bedding, Corncob, Type III
NIH 63-3850

Name and Location of Plant where manufactured.

Date of Manufacture

6. NOTES

6.1 Ordering Data:

a) Title, number, and date of this specification

b) Type of bedding required (ie., Type I; or Type II).