
Cotton bales —

**Part 3:
Packaging and labelling**

Balles de coton —

Partie 3: Emballage et étiquetage

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 72, *Textile machinery and accessories*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Spinning preparatory, spinning, twisting and winding machinery and accessories*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 8115-3:1995), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- various editorial changes have been made.

A list of all parts in the ISO 8115 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Cotton bales —

Part 3: Packaging and labelling

1 Scope

This document specifies details for packaging and labelling of cotton bales.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Protective wrapping

4.1 The bales shall be fully covered with protective wrapping made of fabric (woven or knitted).

The wrapping is preferably made of cotton. However, use of man-made fibres except for polypropylene (PP) is possible as well. Other natural fibres like jute should not be used.

4.2 Plastic foil can be used for wrapping, however it is not regarded as ideal with respect to moisture balance.

4.3 If man-made fibre fabric or plastic foil is used, the colour should not be transparent or white.

4.4 If required by the buyer, suitable bagging manufactured out of other materials may also be used.

5 Strapping

5.1 The bales shall be strapped inside the protective wrapping. Hoops of rustproof steel or synthetic material except for polypropylene (PP) may be used. The strapping shall be secure enough to withstand handling and transportation stresses.

5.2 The arrangement of the strapping (bands/wires) inside the protective wrapping shall permit automatic opening of the bales by machine, i.e. the hoops shall be parallel to each other and all the locks aligned on one side of the bale. Furthermore, a free space of 300 mm to 350 mm may be left in the middle for sampling, if required by the buyer.

5.3 Six hoops are required for a bale length of 1 060 mm and nine hoops for a bale length of 1 590 mm.

NOTE This is in accordance with ISO 8115-1.

6 Labelling

6.1 General

Each bale shall have a mark that identifies the shipping lot. The mark shall be identical to those on the bill of lading, the delivery order and other shipping documents.

The marking colour/ink shall not penetrate through the protective wrapping. All bales shall be marked at the same position.

6.2 Label information

6.2.1 Each bale shall have a label giving the following information:

- a) bale number; and
- b) gin number and/or name.

The bale number should be unique for each bale. The gin number may be encoded into the bale number.

6.2.2 The labels may also contain the following information:

- a) compressor number and/or name;
- b) name of shipper;
- c) gross mass;
- d) tare;
- e) name of cotton;
- f) country of origin;
- g) year of harvest;
- h) quality information like trash content, fibre length, short fibre content, etc.;
- i) any other information as required by the buyer.

6.2.3 The quality of the labels and the attachment thereof shall be such that they do not sustain damage or become detached during handling and transportation of the bales. The labels shall be attached to the bales at an easily accessible position, and at the same position on all bales in the same consignment.

6.3 Readability

The information specified in [6.1](#) and [6.2.1](#) shall be human-readable and optionally machine-readable.

The information specified in [6.2.2](#) may be human-readable and/or machine-readable.

Machine-readability can be reached by using barcode, QR-code, RFID-tag or similar. Machine readability of at least a shipping lot and bale number is recommended for automated processing of the bales.