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U.S. War food administration. Office of distribution.  
Dry edible bean and pea shippers... 1944.



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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution  
Washington, D. C.

Reserve

July 31, 1944

DRY EDIBLE BEAN AND PEA SHIPPERS

Conservation of Bags by Proper Handling and Sewing

During the last few months thousands of bags of beans and peas have arrived at warehouses for storage and docks for export, with the contents of bags leaking and badly strewn because the bags were improperly sewed.

In a number of instances as few as four stitches have been used to close the mouth of the bag and because of increased pressure on these few stitches when the bags are stacked several tiers high the mouth of the container is frequently ripped open rendering the bag unfit for further use and necessitating the rebagging of the contents.

The osnaburg bag has not been generally as satisfactory as 12-ounce burlap. Due to general dissatisfaction with the 36-inch 2.35 yard (6.8 ounce) osnaburg and 10-ounce burlap, 12-ounce burlap bags will be required on the 1944 crop of beans and peas offered for sale to the War Food Administration. Some bag manufacturers claim that their present stocks of 36-inch 12-ounce burlap are limited. However, with the 40-inch 12-ounce burlap which is available and which can be used, plus new shipments of 36-inch 12-ounce burlap from India, all shippers should be able to obtain bags of the specified weight for export shipment.

The Textile Bag Manufacturers Association has prepared the enclosed pamphlet which should be helpful to sack sewers and handlers, especially those depending on hand sewing for closing bags. The bulletin is well illustrated and points out the important factors to remember in handling the containers before and after filling.

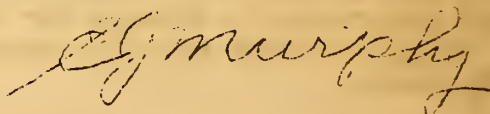
The following is the approximate packaging provision which will be applicable for 1944 beans and peas.

PACKAGING: All dry beans and peas delivered shall be packed 100 pounds net in new 12-ounce burlap bags. Bag seams must be sufficiently strong to develop the full strength of the cloth. Bags shall be closed by machine sewing or carefully hand sewed to insure acceptance by common or other carrier for safe transportation for export shipment at the lowest rate in effect. The size of the bag and the closure shall be such that the filled bag will have 3" of space above the contents to allow for the beans or peas swelling and to provide proper stacking. If bags are hand sewn, an ear shall be formed at

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each end, the bag edges shall be rolled down, and the stitches shall be not more than two inches apart. A 12-ply cotton hand sewing twine or a twine of equivalent tensil strength shall be used for hand-sewn bags.

With this information in mind, we believe shippers should be in a position to contract for their bag requirements for the coming crop year, and thru proper sewing and handling make these needed commodities available to the war-effort with substantially less wastage.



E. J. Murphy

Enclosure