

# Biobased Products and BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>

## What are they?



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Federal Biobased Products Procurement Program

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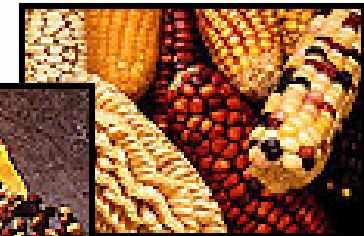
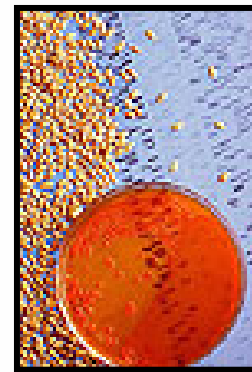
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# Biobased Products & BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>

## What are they?

Biobased products, as defined by section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (FSRIA or the 2002 Farm Bill), are commercial or industrial products (other than food or feed) that are composed in whole, or in significant part, of biological products, renewable agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials), or forestry materials.



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## What are they?

Biobased products made from these renewable agricultural materials are quickly replacing petroleum-based products in many areas including automobiles, construction materials, cleaning chemicals, and clothing.



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## What are they?

Examples of biobased products include:

- ▶ Automobile seats can be made from soy-based polyurethane foam, and automobile tailgates can be made from soy-based polyester resin.
- ▶ Construction materials can be made from residues of sugar cane, bamboo, corn, and soybeans.



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Other examples:

- ▶ Cleaning chemicals can be made with citrus rinds.
- ▶ Clothing, such as socks and t-shirts, can be made from a biopolymer fabric spun from converted corn sugar.



**Products Made from Corn**

bioproducts • corn oil • ethanol • feed • sweeteners • starch

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## What are they?

In addition, a variety of biobased products are being made for the function and comfort in the interior of businesses and homes, such as carpet backing, padding for furniture, printing ink, insulating foams, and molded appliance cases for refrigerators and freezers.



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## What are they?

BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> is the name of the procurement preference program designed to increase the purchase and use of biobased products by Federal agencies. The 2002 Farm Bill charges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) with managing the BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> Program. USDA is proud to be a leader in implementing this important program.



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# Biobased Products & BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> What are they?

As a manager of this program, USDA has been tasked with the process of designating items (or generic groupings) of biobased products that require BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> procurement preference. These designated items contain numerous, commercially available, brand-name products to choose from.



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## What are they?

USDA initiates the item designation process by gathering product data to determine biobased content, technical characteristics, public health, and environmental data. This information is reviewed and presented through the *Federal Register* for public comment before final item designation is made.



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## What are they?

Once an item has been designated, any commercially available product that meets the minimum biobased content standards within that grouping becomes eligible for procurement preference by the Federal Government. BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> program guidelines require that qualifying biobased products be purchased when they:

- are reasonably available,
- meet performance standards, and
- are reasonably priced.



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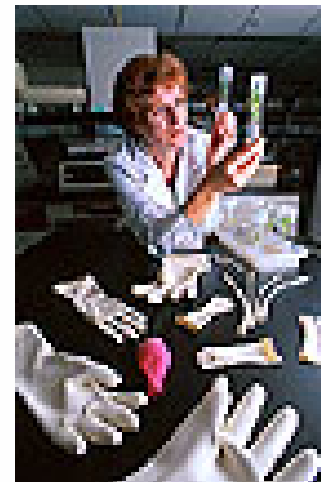


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## What are they?

Examples of designated or potential BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> items include:

- Pest control products
- Cutlery
- Automotive care products
- Carpets
- Hydraulic fluids (mobile equipment)
- Food cleaners



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Additional examples of designated or potential BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> items include:

- Exterior paints and coatings
- Water tank coatings
- Animal care products
- Janitorial cleaners
- Fertilizers
- Composite panels



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## What are they?

Over the next several years, USDA will continue to designate items (or groupings) for procurement preference. A complete list and detailed description of each BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> designated item, and items for future designation, can be found at the USDA BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> Web page:

[www.usda.gov/biopreferred](http://www.usda.gov/biopreferred)



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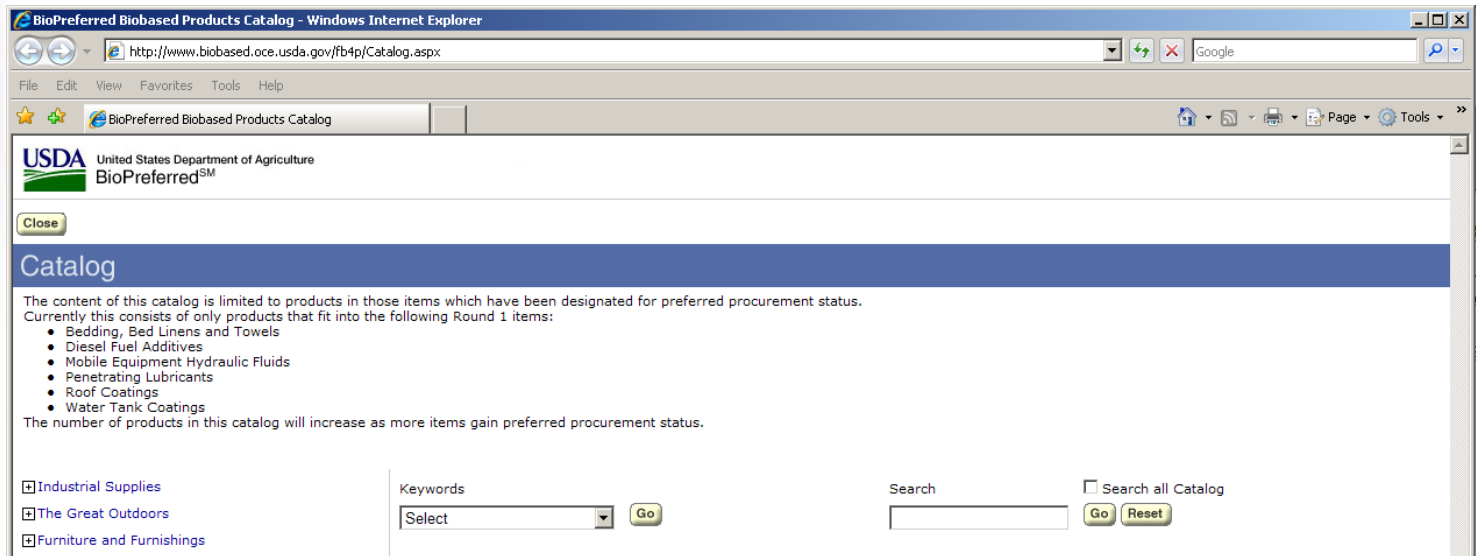


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## What are they?

Thus far, USDA has identified over 10,000 biobased products commercially available across 170 items. USDA maintains an electronic catalog of qualifying BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> products at:

[www.usda.gov/biopreferred](http://www.usda.gov/biopreferred)



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Other Web sites offering information on qualifying and non-qualifying biobased products include:

- U.S. General Services Administration GSA Advantage! ®:  
[www.gsaadvantage.gov](http://www.gsaadvantage.gov)
- Department of Defense – DoD Electronic Mall (EMALL):  
[www.dod.mil/dbt/cse\\_email.html](http://www.dod.mil/dbt/cse_email.html)
- The United Soybean Board:  
[www.soybiobased.org](http://www.soybiobased.org)
- The National Corn Growers Association:  
[lepton.marz.com/ncga/comm\\_dev\\_center/index\\_PG.asp](http://lepton.marz.com/ncga/comm_dev_center/index_PG.asp)

For non-Federal Web sites, no representations, guarantees, or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of the presented information are made and USDA does not endorse any products or services at these sites.

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## What are they?

Additionally, USDA is establishing a voluntary labeling program that will also make it easier for purchasers to identify qualified BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> products.



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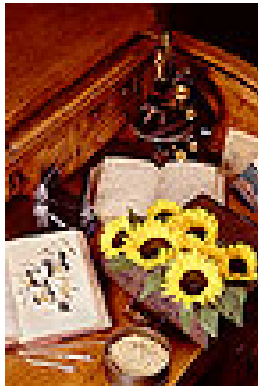


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## What are they?

Now you know:

- 1) what biobased products are,
- 2) what BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> is, and
- 3) how biobased products qualify for procurement preference.



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## What are they?

So, let's discuss the benefits of purchasing biobased products and begin making a difference with BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>!

Click here:

[Why Purchase Biobased Products?](#)



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