

# BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> – What is My Role?



**BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>**  
Federal Biobased Products Procurement Program

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# BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> - What is My Role?

The responsibility of implementing the BioPreferred preference program belongs to everyone in the procurement process.

Whether you are a program manager, an acquisition planner, a facilities manager, a contracting official, a purchase card holder, or in any other job, you can make a difference in the success of this program!



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BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> is a new part of the environmentally friendly Green Purchasing programs, but there have already been many efforts to ensure its success and to help you participate. Let's briefly review some of the impacting laws and regulations.



Executive Orders



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## Impacting Laws and Regulations

- Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Section 9002 (FSRIA or Farm Bill)
- Energy Policy Act of 2005, Sections 205 and 943 (EPACT)
- Guidelines for Designating Biobased Products for Federal Procurement (January 11, 2005)
- Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000
- Executive Order 13423
- Federal Acquisition Regulations



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Section 9002 of FSRIA and the BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> program guidelines require each Federal agency to establish an affirmative procurement program for qualifying BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> products to include:

- A preference for purchasing designated items,
- A promotion program to promote these purchases, and
- Provisions to review and monitor program effectiveness on an annual basis.



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Additionally, all Federal agencies are required to purchase qualifying biobased products when they:

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



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There are only three exceptions when the BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> guidelines may not be applicable.



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First exception:

Products designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as part of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) take preference over BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> products.



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Second exception:

The procurement of motor vehicle fuels or electricity since these items are addressed by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT).



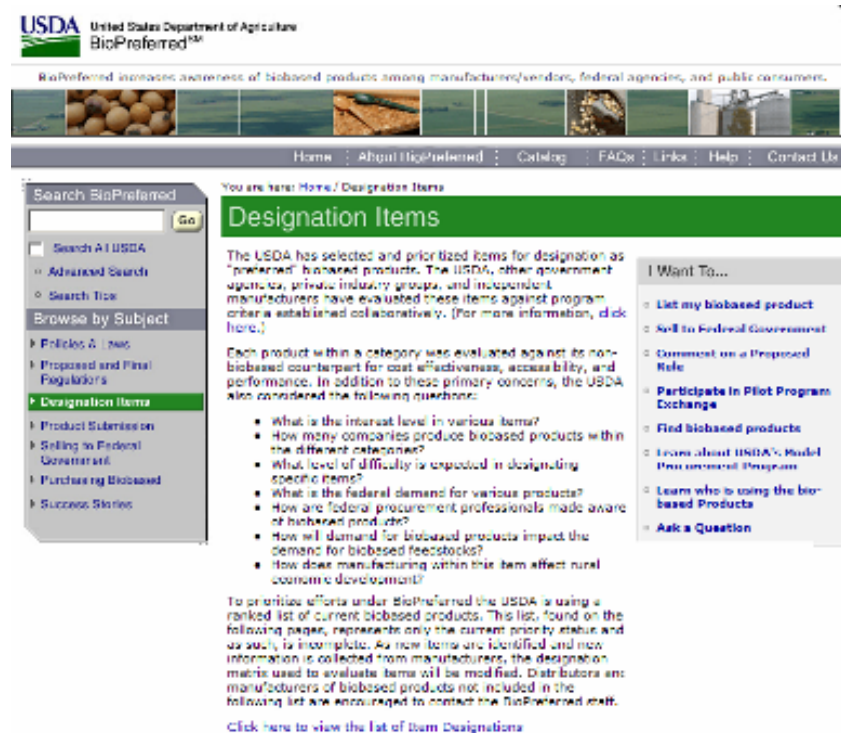
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Third exception:

Procurement of biobased products having mature markets as indicated by USDA is excluded from consideration for designation and procurement preference.



The screenshot shows the USDA BioPreferred website. The header includes the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Home, About BioPreferred, Catalog, FAQs, Links, Help, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled "Designation Items" and contains the following text:

The USDA has selected and prioritized items for designation as "preferred" biobased products. The USDA, other government agencies, private industry groups, and independent manufacturers have evaluated these items against program criteria established collaboratively. (For more information, click [here](#).)

Each product within a category was evaluated against its non-biobased counterpart for cost effectiveness, accessibility, and performance. In addition to these primary concerns, the USDA also considered the following questions:

- What is the interest level in various items?
- How many companies produce biobased products within the different categories?
- What level of difficulty is expected in designating specific items?
- What is the federal demand for various products?
- How are federal procurement professionals made aware of biobased products?
- How will demand for biobased products impact the demand for biobased feedstocks?
- How does manufacturing within this item affect rural economic development?

To prioritize efforts under BioPreferred the USDA is using a ranked list of current biobased products. This list, found on the following page, represents only the current priority status and usability, is incomplete. As new items are identified and new information is collected from manufacturers, the designation matrix used to evaluate items will be modified. Distributors and manufacturers of biobased products not included in the following list are encouraged to contact the BioPreferred staff.

[Click here to view the list of Item Designations](#)

On the right side of the page, there is a "I Want To..." section with the following links:

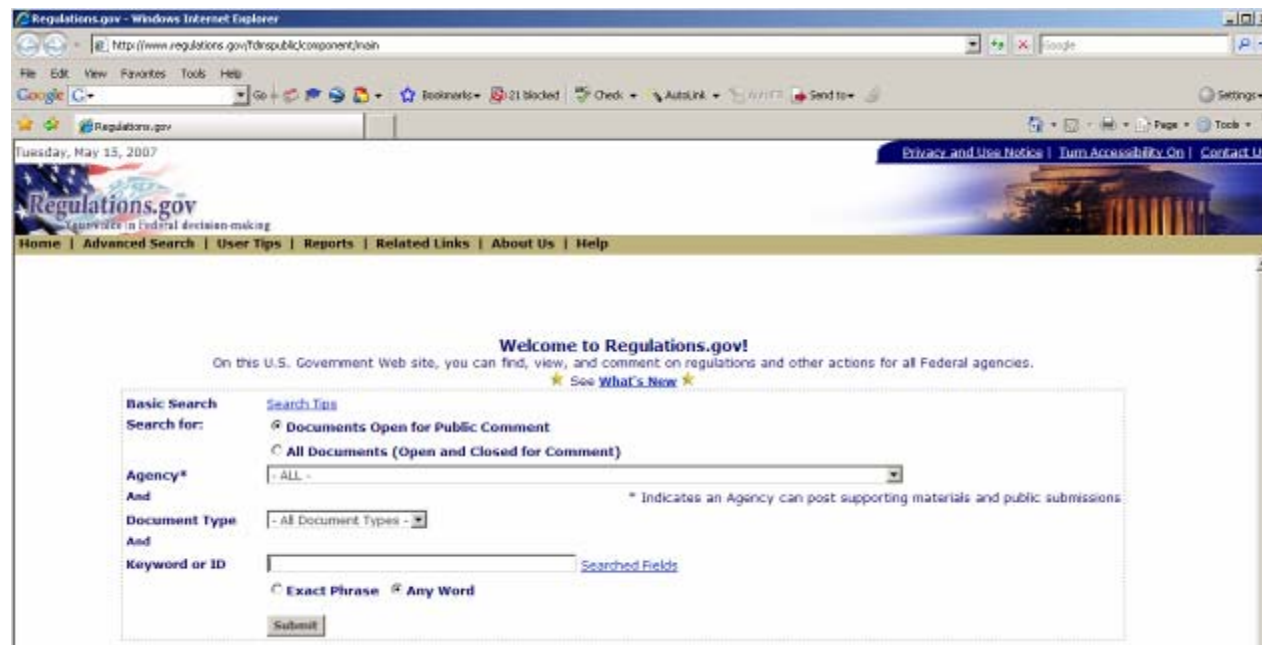
- [List my biobased product](#)
- [Sell to Federal Government](#)
- [Comment on a Proposed Rule](#)
- [Participate in Pilot Program Exchange](#)
- [Find biobased products](#)
- [Learn about USDA's Model Procurement Program](#)
- [Learn who is using the biobased Products](#)
- [Ask a Question](#)

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You should be aware of the general compliance requirements and exceptions and be very familiar with your agency's policies and program requirements.



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## **BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> - What is My Role?**

To make it even easier for you to implement BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup>, USDA has created several useful procurement tools, such as USDA's model BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> Affirmative Procurement Plan and sample contracting language.



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In addition to these useful tools, USDA maintains an electronic catalog of qualifying BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> products on its Web site and is working to include qualifying products on GSA Advantage! <sup>®</sup> and DoD EMALL.





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We can make a difference if we work together to purchase BioPreferred products!



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Working together, we can:

- Increase our energy security & independence,
- Increase economic development,
- Improve our environment, and
- Meet the requirements of the 2002 Farm Bill.



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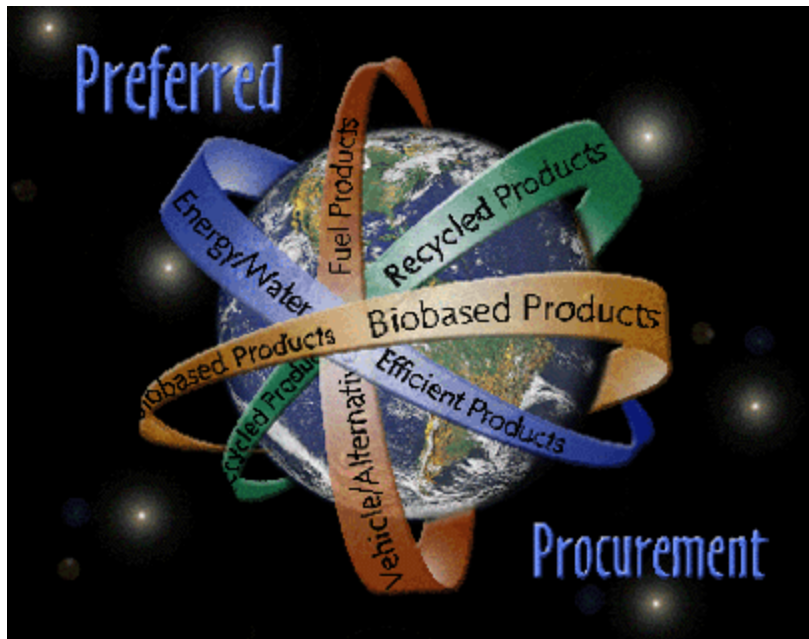
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It's easy! It's important!

So please, do your part to help and purchase BioPreferred products!



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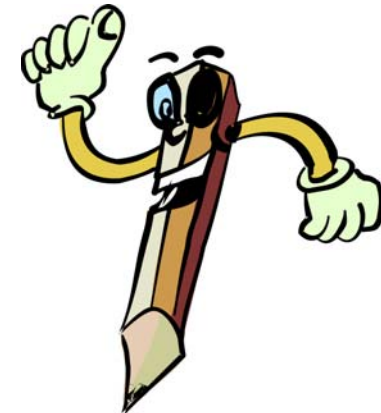




## **BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> - What is My Role?**

To learn more about BioPreferred<sup>SM</sup> and the tools discussed in this training module, visit [www.usda.gov/biopreferred](http://www.usda.gov/biopreferred).

[Click here to complete the Awareness Training Self-Tests](#)



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August 2007

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