

2015 Bale Tie Incident Report

Form for Reporting Bale Tie Incidents

The National Cotton Council of America (NCC) wants to know how well the Joint Cotton Industry Bale Packaging Committee (JCIBPC) is carrying out its mission of preserving "... the quality of U.S. cotton fiber for mill consumption through the development of standards for cotton bales that include safe and environmentally friendly materials, methods, systems and facilities for packaging, handling, tagging, and removing bagging and ties."

If you have firsthand knowledge of unacceptable bale packaging performance at any time during the last six months, please complete and submit this questionnaire.

ALL RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL. NO INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES WILL BE RELEASED FOR ANY REASON WITHOUT WRITTEN CONSENT.

INCIDENT

Please provide the following: (1) The size (number of bales involved), (2/3) the time frame/duration and (4) the type of incident.

1. SIZE OF BALE TIE INCIDENT

Please indicate the number of bale tie patterns that were not acceptable and the number of similar bale tie patterns that were acceptable.

Count (estimate) the number ties that were:

UNACCEPTABLE [_____] (number)

ACCEPTABLE [_____] (number)

2. TIME FRAME

(a) Please provide approximate dates from the START (when the incident/problem was discovered/reported) until the END (incident/problem ceased).

(Two number date format: MM/DD/YY (month, day, year))

MM DD YY

START [] / [] / []

END [] / [] / []

3. DURATION

(b) Estimate the number of days, weeks or months that elapsed from the time the problem was discovered until the problem was resolved or ceased.

one day one week one month several months ... was not resolved

The following questions are based on two types of bale ties: steel wire (6 and 8 wire patterns) and PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic strap.

4. Type of bale tie associated with the incident:

- steel wire PET plastic strap

5. Incident Description

(Mark all boxes that apply)

- missing wires/plastic straps wire loop or knot failures PET strap weld or joint failures
 broken wires/plastic straps unacceptable bale growth other (please specify below)

6. Is the **name** of the wire/PET strap manufacturer or distributor known?

- Yes No

7. If the answer to the previous question is “yes,” please provide **name**:

8. JCIBPC TEST PROGRAM: Were there indications i.e. JCIBPC test program tags on the bale bags or other markings present that indicated that the bale ties/straps were part of a JCIBPC test program?

- Yes No

9. RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM: Has the bale tie/PET strap incident been resolved to your satisfaction?

- Yes No

10. Use the space below to report if and how the incident was (or was not) resolved:

COTTON SYSTEM RELATIONSHIPS

The following questions look at how cotton system relationships are affected by cotton bale packaging performance.

1. Your PRIMARY cotton industry AFFILIATION at the time of the incident. (Tell us about yourself.)

Please select **only one** affiliation:

- GIN – cotton gin(s)
- GIN/WHS – cotton gin(s) AND cotton warehouse(s)
- WHSE – cotton warehouse(s)
- Other – fill in the blank [_____]
- SPINNER – cotton yarn spinning plant(s) or textile mill(s)
- Ship/MC – cotton shipper or marketing coop
- FF – freight forwarder

2. TYPES OF OPERATION(S) (facility) that knew, may have known or were informed about the incident:

Cotton bales from (*fill in the blank*) were involved in the incident

(Mark all choices that apply).

- one cotton gin
- multiple cotton gins
- other (please specify) [_____]
- one cotton warehouse
- multiple cotton warehouses

3. GENERAL INFORMATION (No information will be shared or published without your written consent).

Note: If cotton bales are handled at multiple locations and the same type of bale packaging incident occurred at more than one location, you may complete one report for all locations or submit separate reports for each location.

State/Province: [_____] Country: [_____]

4. OPTIONAL (CONTACT) INFORMATION

Company: [_____] Zip: [_____]
Name: [_____] Email address: [_____]
County: [_____] Phone number: [_____]
City: [_____]

5. Are you willing to answer follow-up questions after you submit a report?

- Yes
- No

Thank you for completing the incident report for bale ties.

Please submit this form and your comments or pictures to the attention of the JCIBPC

Email address: jcibpc@cotton.org Fax number: 901-725-0510