



“Recycled Soap Made of Cooking Oil Version1.2”

Japan Environment Association
Eco Mark Office

1. Environmental Background

Used cooking oil after being used in households, etc. poses as a substance polluting water when disposed from the kitchen sink. Cooking oil can be disposed by processing using absorbents, etc., but there are also efforts led by civic groups, welfare organizations, etc. to recycle cooking oil into soap for such purposes as the prevention of water pollution, promotion of recycling, environment education, etc. In 1989, the Eco Mark Office established soap made by recycling used cooking oil as Product Category No. 11 “Recycled Soap Made of Cooking Oil” under the Eco Mark Program and has been promoting such efforts.

This time, in the overall assessment conducted based on the product life-cycle concept promoted since 1996, this product category was reviewed from the aspects of effective use of resources, prevention of water pollution, and chemical substances, etc., and soap recycled from used cooking oil was once again taken up as a product category of the program.

2. Applicable Products

Soap products based on the “Standard Commodity Classification for Japan” issued by the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications.

3. Terminology

- Recycling: Indicates material recycling. Does not include energy recovery (thermal recycling).
- Used cooking oil: Cooking oil disposed after use as a product.
- Plastic: Materials composed of single or multiple polymers and additives, fillers, etc, which provide specific characteristics.
- Polymer: Macro molecules, serving as the main components of plastic.
- Prescription constituents: Components intentionally added with the purpose of providing specific characteristics to the product. Impurities which are inevitably mixed during the manufacturing process are excluded.

NOTE: This document is a translation of the criteria written in Japanese. In the event of dispute, the original document should be taken as authoritative.

4. Certification Criteria

4-1. Environmental Criteria

- (1) The raw material fat of products shall be 100% used cooking oil.
- (2) Production processes shall conform to relevant environmental laws and regulations on preventing air pollution, water contamination, noise, vibration, odor and the emission of hazardous materials.
- (3) Products shall be shipped in such a way that they can be sold in simple packaging at the retail stage.
~~The material of this simple packaging shall contain 70% or more used paper pulp if made of paper, and 90% or more used paper pulp for paperboard.~~ If using plastic for packaging, material composition shall be labeled in accordance with ISO11469. Labeling of material composition can be omitted if complying with “Measures for Plain Container and Packaging”, “Measures for Container and Packaging Imposed with Physical Restrictions such as Insufficient Indication Space”, “Labeling Requirements and Methods for Multi Container and Packaging”, “Measures for Packaging Printed with Corporate or Brand Names”, “Measures for Exported Products” related to the discriminating mark item in the “Container Packaging Identification Labeling Review Committee Report (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, July 2000).
- (4) Plastic materials used for packaging shall not contain polymers including halogens and organic halogenides as prescription constituents.

4-2. Quality Criteria

- (5) Products shall comply with corresponding standards of the JIS including JIS K 3301, JIS K 3302, and JIS K 3303. Quality control in the manufacturing shall also be adequately implemented.
- (6) Products shall observe the “Household Products Quality Labeling Law” and “Fair Competition Regulations Related to Labeling on Household Synthetic Detergents and Household Soaps”.

5. Certification Procedure

- (1) For Criterion 4-1.(1), documents certifying contents shall be submitted.
- (2) For Criterion 4-1.(2), a certificate by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product shall be submitted to certify that relevant local environmental laws, regulations, etc. have been observed with no violation for the last five years before the filing of the application.
- (3) For Criterion 4-1.(3), the packaging state and material used at the retail stage of the product (percentage of recycled material used) and material composition labeling details shall be described specifically in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage (drawings and/or photographs may be used). If omitting material composition labeling, the reason shall be stated.
- (4) For Criterion 4-1.(4), whether halogen contained polymers or organic halogenides are used shall be described specifically in the Application Form for Eco Mark Certification and Usage.

- (5) For Criterion 4-2.(5), documents certifying conformity of products to corresponding quality standards shall be submitted. Certificates by the manager of the plant manufacturing the product shall be submitted to certify that quality control has been implemented adequately in the manufacturing stage, and that no laws have been violated. If the product under application or the plant manufacturing the product under application is JIS certified, a copy of the JIS certificate can be submitted as proof of conformity to the concerned criteria.
- (6) For Criterion 4-2.(6), samples of labeling shall be submitted based on the “Household Products Quality Labeling Law” and “Fair Competition Regulations Related to Labeling on Household Synthetic Detergents and Household Soaps”.

Established: July 1, 2004 (Version 1.0)

Revised: October 19, 2006 (Version 1.1: deletion of 6. Others)

Revised: Feb. 14, 2008 (Version 1.2)

Validity Period: June 30, 2009

These certification criteria and/or the product category will be revised or abolished when deemed necessary.