

Discover the truth behind package labeling

to make an informed purchase



GUARDIAN

Large Flake
Actual finished bag
2.4 cubic feet
(labeled 2.25 cu')
High Densification
Actual 8.49 cu'
before compression

Actual expanded
value based on
Federal Weights and
Measures
regulations
6.0 cubic feet
(labeled 5.75 cu')

No dust
All Pine
Easy to handle
Ultra compress
package saves
storage space.


Other Brand

Mixed flake
Actual Finished bag
2.8 cubic feet
(labeled 3.25 cu')
Low dense pkg.
Claims 9 cu'
before compression

Actual expanded
value based on
Federal Weights and
Measures
regulations
5.60 cubic feet
(labeled 7.5 cu')

Very dusty
Softwood blend
Large bag filled
under
less compression
harder to handle.

Volume test performed 8/4/06 using the same volume unit for both products.



The bag on the right was improperly labeled and advertises more volume than is actually in the bag. The Guardian Bag is actually labeled slightly under volume, but this means that it is labeled legally.

Guardian Large Flake
Labeled 5.75 cu'
Actual 6.0 cu' expanded

Other Brand Standard Flake
Labeled 7.5 cu'
Actual 5.6 cu' expanded

Understanding packaging and what causes variation in volumes.

While some manufacturers set out to deceive the consumer with improperly labeled packages, many simply don't know how to measure and label correctly. The federal offices of weights and measures periodically test bagged shavings that are shipped for resale.

There are many variables that can cause a package to be labeled correctly one day and incorrectly the next.

The larger the flake and the higher the compression capacity of the bagging equipment the larger the volume that can go into a bag.

For example, our large premium flake will start as 8.49 cubic feet in our filler tube. We use high densification equipment that can compress at a 3.5 to 1 rate. The fiber is cleaned to remove dust and is relatively light weight per cubic foot.

Our mini flake will start as 4.0 cubic feet in our filler tube. Again, with high densification equipment, the mini flake can be compressed at a 1.75 to 1 rate. The smaller flake has less air between the flakes, so the volume statements will be lower. The mini flake is relatively heavy in weight per cubic foot.

Because of our high densification equipment, we can package a slightly smaller finished bag. This allows us to put 45 bags on a pallet and more pallets on a truck. With the high cost of shipping today, this means less per bag for shipping.

Please let us know if you wish to receive more information about our efficient high densification packaging. This policy is just a continuation of our goal to provide the highest quality product and reduce waste along the way.

GUARDIAN HORSE BEDDING

866-962-4686

WWW.GUARDIANHORSEBEDDING.COM

IS THAT BEDDING PACKAGE A GOOD VALUE?

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES REGULATIONS REQUIRE THAT A PACKAGE BE LABELED WITH THE MINIMUM EXPANDED VOLUME THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE IN THE BAG.

BECAUSE OF GREATER ENFORCEMENT MANY BRANDS HAVE RECENTLY REDUCED THEIR EXPANDED LABELS FROM AS HIGH AS 9 CU FT DOWN TO 5.5 CU FT FOR THE SAME PRODUCT.

VOLUMES ARE AFFECTED BY MANY THINGS.

A LARGE FLAKE BEDDING WILL CREATE “MORE VOLUME” BECAUSE THE EXPANSION VALUE INCLUDES THE AIR BETWEEN THE PARTICLES. WHILE THE VOLUME NUMBER MAY BE HIGH, YOU WILL USE AND DISPOSE OF MORE BEDDING BECAUSE THE PRODUCT IS NOT SIFTABLE AND NOT ABSORBENT.

YOUR BEST VALUE WILL BE A MINI FLAKE BEDDING THAT HAS A LOW MOISTURE CONTENT AND 35—40 POUNDS PER BAG. YOU WILL GET HIGH ABSORBENCY, AND BECAUSE IT SIFTS SO EASY, YOU WILL REDUCE YOUR CONSUMPTION AND DISPOSAL. THIS WILL SAVE YOU MONEY. THE VOLUMES MAY NOT APPEAR HIGH, BUT FOR A PRODUCT LIKE OUR SWIFT PICK MINI FLAKE, IT IS LIKE COMPARING APPLES AND ORANGES. YOU WILL USE LESS BEDDING!

JUST BECAUSE A BAG IS HEAVY, DON’T ASSUME IT HAS MORE BEDDING. HIGH MOISTURE CONTENTS WILL ADD WEIGHT TO A BAG AND THAT IS NOT A GOOD THING!

WHY IS THE GUARDIAN SHAVINGS BAG ONLY 2.25 CU FT COMPRESSED?

WE PACKAGE “NORMAL” AMOUNTS OF BEDDING IN A SMALLER BAG TO REDUCE FREIGHT COSTS PER BAG AND TO PROVIDE AN EASIER TO HANDLE BAG. OUR HIGH DENSIFICATION EQUIPMENT COMPRESSES AT HIGHER RATIOS THAN THE EQUIPMENT USED BY OTHER MANUFACTURERS.

WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR IN A GOOD BEDDING?

1. **SOFTWOOD, PREFERABLY PINE.** SOME HARDWOODS CAN BE TOXIC TO HORSES. HARDWOODS ARE NOT AS ABSORBENT AS SOFTWOODS.
1. **LOW DUST.** THE BEDDING SHOULD BE SCREENED AND ASPIRATED TO REMOVE DUST AND FINES. THE EQUINE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM IS VULNERABLE TO BEDDING DUST.
3. **EASY TO PICK.** WITH AN EASY TO PICK BEDDING YOU CAN REDUCE STALL CLEANING TIME, BEDDING CONSUMPTION AND DISPOSAL. THIS WILL SAVE YOU MONEY! BY REDUCING CONSUMPTION AND DISPOSAL YOU WILL IMPROVE THE COMPOST PILE AND INCREASE IT’S BENEFIT IF YOU SPREAD YOUR MANURE. IF YOU REQUIRE THE USE OF A DUMPSTER TO HAUL AWAY THE MANURE YOU’LL SAVE MONEY BY REDUCING THE DISPOSAL AS WELL.
4. **HIGHLY ABSORBENT.** AGAIN, PICK A SOFTWOOD BEDDING. IF THE BEDDING IS HIGHLY ABSORBENT, YOU WILL REDUCE THE AMMONIA LEVELS IN THE STALL. THE URINE WILL BE ABSORBED BEFORE IT CAN PUDDLE, OR SEEP UNDER THE MAT AND INTO THE GROUND. THE ABILITY TO COMPLETELY REMOVE THE WETSPOT IS CRITICAL TO IMPROVING AND MAINTAINING THE AIR QUALITY IN THE BARN. IF THE BEDDING IS ABSORBENT, YOU WILL WASTE LESS BEDDING AT THE WETSPOT, WHICH AGAIN, MEANS YOU WILL CONSUME AND DISPOSAL OF LESS BEDDING.

For more information about our high quality bedding
Please visit our website www.guardianhorsebedding.com
1-866-962-4686

GUARDIAN HORSE BEDDING