



Box 42131
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TX 79409-2131
PHONE: 806-742-2816 FAX: 806-742-2880
E-MAIL: COTTONLINK@TTU.EDU
WWW.COTTONLINK.ORG

LINTERS

DEFINITION

Linters are the remaining fibers (lint) on the cotton seed after it has been processed at the gin. These linters can be made into a variety of useful products and have proven to be beneficial in a number of ways.

DETAILS

- Cotton linters are sold from the gin or cotton by-products processor in large bales.

- Linters can be made into many different items when sold and processed in different markets.

They can be made into things such as paper good, films, yarns, felts, medical grade cotton and food castings. These items can then be further processed into many commonly used items such as: ice cream, toothpaste, candles, rugs, mattresses, upholstery, money, X-ray and camera film, tape cotton balls and hot dogs.

- When chemically processed, linters will produce cellulose esters, ethers and cellulose nitrate, which are used to make bullets, fingernail polish and plastics.

STORY IDEAS

- Contact local gins about how and where they sell their cotton linters.
- Talk with local manufacturers that use cotton linters in their products.
- Create a story highlighting products that contain cotton linters and how they arrived to be in that product.

IMPACT

- The versatility of cotton linters makes them a very valuable and profitable by-product for local gins.
- Millions of products made with the help of cotton linters are sold each year, creating a huge market for the linters themselves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
PYCO Industries, Inc.
Lubbock, Texas
806-747-3434
<http://www.pycoindustries.com>