

# **Nordic Ecolabelling of Grease-proof Paper – Supplementary Module**



Version 3.5 • 9 October 2003 – 31 March 2015



Nordic Ecolabelling

In 1989, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided to introduce a voluntary official ecolabel, the Swan. These organisations/companies operate the Nordic Ecolabelling scheme on behalf of their own country's government.

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This is a translation of the criteria document in Norwegian.

In any case of dispute, the original document should be taken as authoritative.

This document may only be reproduced in its entirety, and with no modifications of any kind. Excerpts may be used provided Nordic Ecolabelling is cited as source.

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**Appendix 1 Marketing of Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper**

**Appendix 2 Environmental and quality assurance**



# Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products

Criteria for Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products encompass a wide range of requirements, most of which relate to pulp and paper production. The Basic Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products – Basic Module) contains requirements regarding forest management, emissions, energy and waste in pulp and paper manufacturing. The Chemical Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products – Chemical Module) covers requirements of chemicals used in the production of pulp and paper.

A Supplementary Module includes an overview of all the requirements specific to a Nordic Ecolabelled product, in this case, grease-proof papers. Requirements that are not specific to grease-proof papers are contained in the Basic Module and Chemical Module. However, requirements specific to grease-proof papers are set out in the supplementary module for grease-proof papers. One example is that grease-proof paper shall not be made of recycled fibre, as specified in the supplementary module.

To be awarded a Nordic Ecolabel licence, the supplementary requirements contained in this document, as well as the applicable parts of the Basic Module and Chemical Module, must be fulfilled.

At present, the modular system for paper products comprises the following documents:

- Basic Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products – Basic Module)
- Chemical Module (Nordic Ecolabelling of paper products – Chemical Module)
- Nordic Ecolabelling of coffee filters – Supplementary Module
- Nordic Ecolabelling of grease-proof paper – Supplementary Module
- Nordic Ecolabelling of envelopes – Supplementary Module
- Nordic Ecolabelling of printing paper – Supplementary Module
- Nordic Ecolabelling of tissue paper – Supplementary Module

The following supplementary requirements may be developed during the next years:

- Nordic Ecolabelling of packaging paper – Supplementary Module

The requirements of the Supplementary Modules may be more stringent or more lenient than those of the Basic Module and the Chemical Module. If there is a discrepancy, the requirements of the Supplementary Module shall take precedence.

## What is Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper?

The Nordic Ecolabel is an official ecolabel with absolute requirements. A Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper is amongst the least environmental hazardous within its group and a Nordic Ecolabel on a grease-proof paper shows that the product fulfils strict environmental requirements.

Requirements imposed are based on a life cycle assessment of the product and concern production, use and waste. In the case of grease-proof paper this is achieved by using certified raw materials, by limiting the use of environmentally harmful chemicals, by producing low emissions to air and water and by reducing the energy consumption.

To be awarded a Nordic Ecolabel licence, the requirements in the Basic Module, the Chemical Module and the requirements of the Supplementary Module must be fulfilled.

The criteria's environmental requirements can be used by each manufacturer as a guide on how they can contribute to a development towards a sustainable society.

The granting of an ecolabel to a product confirms that resources have been used efficiently and that environmentally friendly production methods have been applied. Nordic Ecolabelling has evaluated the raw materials used in the product and only raw materials of the highest quality in environmental terms may be used in Nordic Ecolabelled paper products.

## Why choose the Nordic Ecolabel?

- The Nordic Ecolabel is a standard with absolute requirements.
- The Nordic Ecolabel represents a cost-effective and simple means of communicating an enterprise's environmental work and commitment.
- The Nordic Ecolabel has a high level of recognition and credibility in the Nordic countries. For example in 2000, 91% of those surveyed in Sweden, 85% in Norway, 75% in Finland, 56% in Denmark and 52% in Iceland recognised the Nordic Ecolabel.
- Environmental issues are complex, and it can take a long time to learn about specific areas. The Nordic Ecolabel can be used as a guide in this work.
- The Nordic Ecolabel imposes requirements relating to quality and recycling. This means that a Nordic Ecolabel licence is a mark of quality.
- The Nordic Ecolabel allows manufacturers to reach purchasers within the private and public sectors who are interested in protecting the environment.

## Which grease-proof papers qualify for a Nordic Ecolabel?

Grease-proof paper such as sandwich wrapper and baking paper, and converted products there-of can be Nordic Ecolabelled. Grease-proof paper is used in baking paper, sandwich wrapper and sandwich interlay paper, roasting bags, drawing paper and “high density paper” for food wrapping. Grease release paper is included in the product group. Window envelopes are not included in the product group.

These criteria do not apply to other paper products such as paper/board for packaging, newspaper, magazine paper or household paper, as well as paper for general printing, writing and copying purposes.

## How to apply

An application form for the product in question is available from Nordic Ecolabelling’s web sites. A signed application and written documentation providing evidence that the product fulfils the requirements of the Basic Module, the Chemical Module and this document, shall be submitted to the secretariat in the Nordic country of manufacture or, if appropriate, the country in which the product is sold. Copies of all documents must be kept available by the applicant. The applicant must also be well acquainted with "Regulations for Nordic Ecolabelling of Products".

Whether or not requirements are met must be stated for each requirement, that is, one of the options " yes  no" must be checked. Each requirement is followed by a  symbol and a description of how the requirement should be documented by the applicant or subcontractor. Enclosures must be numbered and the number filled in under "Appendix No. \_\_\_\_".

This document can be used as checklist to ensure that all requirements are fulfilled and documented.

All information sent to Nordic Ecolabelling is handled strictly confidentially, including the name of the supplier and product, which are only released when a licence is awarded.

# Ecolabelling requirements for grease-proof paper

The requirements relate only to those parts of the output of the production that are encompassed by the application. The requirements contain references to the Basic Module and the Chemical Module. For a licence to be granted all requirements in Chapters 1, 2 and 3 must be met. If the manufacturer uses other report systems (such as EMAS, ISO 14 001 or reporting to the authorities) this can be approved if they are specific enough regarding the relevant product. In such cases, references shall be made to relevant parts of the report system.

## 1 Requirements as regards the applicant

### 1.1 The application must contain

Criteria fulfilled?

#### R1 The application must contain:

Yes  No 

- Documentation of fulfilment of all requirements. In this document the requirements can be found in Chapters 1, 2 and 3.
- A list of the documentation submitted.
- A completed application form. Forms are available from the secretariat to which the application is to be submitted or on Nordic Ecolabelling's web sites.
- Product samples.

Documentation of the above points.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### 1.2 Information about the product

#### R2 Information about the product must contain:

Yes  No 

- The trademark/name of the product and designation of type.
- Annual sales of the product (number) and turnover in each individual Nordic country.
- A technical description of the product and its composition. The description must include paper and pulp qualities and the production sites.

Documentation of the above points.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### 1.3 Marketing of the Nordic Ecolabel

#### R3 Marketing

Yes  No 

Applicants must be acquainted with "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of Products".

*A description of the design of the Nordic Ecolabel can be found at the end of this document.*

Declaration that the licence applicant is familiar with "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of Products". Appendix 1 may be used for documentation purposes.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_



**R4 Personnel responsible for marketing**

Yes  No

The applicant must confirm that the personnel responsible for marketing are familiar with the principles and conditions of Nordic Ecolabelling as mentioned above.



Information on the responsibilities regarding the marketing of the Nordic Ecolabel.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## **1.4 Recycling systems for products and packaging**

**R5 Recycling system**

Yes  No

National legislation, rules and industry agreements on the recycling of products and their packaging must be met in the Nordic countries in which the ecolabelled product is on sale.



The registration number in the national recycling system for products and packaging or other documentation of compliance with the requirement.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## **1.5 Authority requirements**

**R6 Authority requirements**

Yes  No

The holder of the ecolabelling licence is responsible for ensuring that the production of the ecolabelled products complies with all requirements as to safety, working conditions, working environment legislation, environmental legislation and conditions/licences relating to the specific production facility in the individual country in which ecolabelled products are produced.

## **1.6 Environmental and quality assurance**

**R7 Environmental and quality assurance**

Yes  No

The applicant is responsible for making sure that the quality of the Nordic Ecolabelled product is maintained throughout the period of validity of the licence. The applicant shall ensure that:

- All requirements in the ecolabelling criteria that are relevant for the applicant are being met and that they are verifiable during the validity period of the licence
- The Nordic Ecolabelled product can be traced throughout the entire production process from raw material to finished product
- Unforeseen non-conformities or planned changes in production, which may affect the product's ability to fulfil the ecolabelling requirements, are reported to Nordic Ecolabelling without delay
- A person in the organisation is assigned the responsibility and authority to guarantee that the requirements of the ecolabelling criteria are fulfilled.
- A contact person, responsible for reporting to Nordic Ecolabelling, is appointed

The licence holder shall have a written permission from Nordic Ecolabelling before carrying out any changes that may be of relevance

for the fulfilment of the ecolabelling requirements. Examples of such changes are exchanging raw materials, a new production method, and the use of new chemicals.



The applicant shall provide confirmation of the above by completing Appendix 2.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

**R8****Quality manual**Yes  No 

The applicant must follow the written procedures of the company's quality manual for the production of ecolabelled products. These routines are:

- Procedures for securing the traceability of Nordic Ecolabelled products through the entire production process
- Procedures for handling non-conformities and changes in the production of the Nordic Ecolabelled product, and reporting these to the contact person and Nordic Ecolabelling
- Procedure for logs and annual reports



Extracts from the quality manual describing the procedures for the production of ecolabelled products. The applicant must also have the following documents available in the event of an inspection visit.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

- Copy of the entire application
- Background data to the documentation that is submitted along with the application
- Journals of unforeseen deviations and planned production changes in the production of the ecolabelled product
- Quality manual with procedures for the production of ecolabelled products
- Complaints and claims relating to the ecolabelled product

## 2 Requirements as regards the producer of converted grease-proof paper products

The grease-proof paper may be converted by another manufacturer than the paper manufacturer. In this case, the manufacturer converting the paper must fulfil the requirements in chapter 2. If the paper manufacturer is converting the paper, he must fulfil the requirements in both chapters 2 and 3.

### 2.1 Production technique

Criteria fulfilled?

#### R9 Production technique

Yes  No

The manufacturer must describe the grease-proof paper, including their grammage and the production technique used for conversion.

Description of the grease-proof paper and the production technique. Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### 2.2 Properties in use

#### R10 Properties in use

Yes  No

The product must fulfil the normal requirements relating to performance properties for grease-proof paper.

An overview of the performance properties or a technical description of the same. Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### 2.3 Packaging

#### R11 Packaging material

Yes  No

The design, materials and weight of packaging material used for the grease-proof paper must be described. Further, packaging materials must not contain chlorine-based plastics.

Description of the packaging material. Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

#### R12 Recycling of the packaging

Yes  No

The packaging shall be recyclable. Heterogeneous packaging material that does not allow recycling is not permitted.

Documentation showing that the packaging is recyclable Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

#### R13 Labelling of packaging

Yes  No

A proposal for labelling the packaging with the Nordic Ecolabel must be submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling.

*For baking paper the following text must be easily visible on the packaging: "This paper may be used more than once before disposal".*

Example of packaging bearing the Nordic Ecolabel and if applicable, with the text displayed on the baking paper packaging. Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## 2.4 Chemicals in the conversion process

### R14 Chemicals

Yes  No 

The manufacturer must specify all chemicals (e.g. adhesives, colouring and cleaning chemicals) used in the production of grease-proof paper, stating their type, trade name, supplier, area of application and quantity per tonne of grease-proof paper. The chemicals must fulfil the requirements in the Chemical Module.

*Supplementary requirements for chemicals used in the paper production are given in R24.*

- List of chemicals used, stating type, trade name, supplier, area of application and quantity per tonne of grease-proof paper and documentation showing that the chemicals fulfil the requirements in the Chemical Module. If this documentation has been provided in the past, state when, by which company and to which secretariat.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### R15 Coating chemicals

Yes  No 

Coating chemicals used in grease-proof paper must not contain chromium or fluorine compounds.

- Statement from the chemical supplier that the product does not contain chromium or fluorine compounds

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## 2.5 Paper that comes into contact with foodstuffs

### R16 The resolution of the Council of Europe

Yes  No 

The converted grease-proof paper (e.g. roasting bags and baking paper) must satisfy the Council of Europe's resolution concerning paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. If parts of this resolution have not entered into force, the production of the products must comply with BfR/Germany, Warenwet/the Netherlands or FDA/USA.

Copy of certificate from an impartial body (3d party).

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

### R17 National regulations

Yes  No 

National regulations governing paper that comes into contact with foodstuffs must be observed in the Nordic countries in which the product is to be sold bearing a Nordic Ecolabel.

- Documentation of compliance with the requirement.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## 2.6 Waste

### R18 Waste

Yes  No 

All waste must be sorted at source on the production site and the various fractions must be recycled or processed in an appropriate manner. The waste fractions and the handling of them shall be specified. If the waste is classified as hazardous in accordance with national regulations, this must be stated in the application.

- The manufacturer must declare the following:

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

- How the waste is sorted and in which fractions.
- How the different fractions are disposed of (internal or external recycling, energy use, depositing or other means).
- Quantities of the different fractions per year. The quantities can, if necessary, be measured for a short period of time and then be calculated into the year average.

## **2.7 Authority requirements**

### **R19 Authority requirements**

Yes  No

The manufacturer must fulfil the same requirements as the applicant, see R6.

## **2.8 Environmental and quality assurance**

### **R20 Environmental and quality assurance**

Yes  No

The manufacturer must fulfil the same requirements as the applicant, see R7.

### **R21 Quality manual**

Yes  No

The manufacturer must fulfil the same requirements as the applicant, see R8.

### 3 Requirements as to pulp and paper manufacturers

Unless otherwise specified, grease-proof paper is always subject to the requirements contained in the Basic Module and the Chemical Module. The supplementary requirements below must also be fulfilled. The Basic Module contains requirements as to forestry, emissions to water and air (AOX, COD, P, S, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>), energy consumption, waste processing, and quality and eco-assurance. R26 in this document gives specific reference values for the requirements regarding emissions. The energy requirement is not altered if the energy consumption is larger for production of grease-proof paper than for other paper types. Instead, the extra energy consumption can be put down as an alternative process, see R25.

#### 3.1 Information about the paper

Criteria fulfilled?

##### R22 Paper quality

Yes  No 

State the name, quality, grammage and manufacturer of the paper.

Has the paper quality already been approved by Nordic Ecolabelling in accordance with the Supplementary Module for grease-proof paper and/or have the requirements contained in the Basic Module and the Chemical Module already been documented?

If yes, state when and by which secretariat. If the paper has been approved in accordance with the Supplementary Module for grease-proof paper no further documentation of the other requirements as to paper and pulp production are required. If the requirements in the Basic Module and the Chemical Module have already been documented, the applicant need only fulfil the supplementary requirements in R23-R26.

If no, all the requirements in the Basic Module, the Chemical Module and the supplementary requirements in R23-R26 must be fulfilled.

*The documentation required from the paper mill may be submitted directly to the Nordic Ecolabelling.*

Overview of the above points.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

##### R23 Fibre raw materials

Yes  No 

The pulp in the paper can only be produced from virgin fibres.

Documentation from the pulp manufacturer stating the fulfilment of the requirement.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

##### R24 Chemicals

Yes  No 

The paper must not contain optical whiteners

Documentation from the paper manufacturer stating the fulfilment of the requirement.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

**R25 Energy consumption**

Yes  No

Beating of pulp and drying of paper for grease-proof quality means greater energy consumption than production of other types of paper. Neither the Basic Module nor this supplementary module has a separate reference value for this process. However, the manufacturer can count the energy consumption as an alternative process. This means that the reference value is equal to the actual consumption, which in turn means that it will not affect the possibility to fulfil the limit values for energy consumption since the energy points will not be affected by this process. For a more accurate description, see the energy requirements in the Basic Module.

**R26 Emissions to water and air**

Yes  No

Emission points for the production of pulp and paper for grease-proof paper are calculated with the aid of specific reference values:

$$\text{COD}_{\text{ref,paper machine}} = 8 \text{ kg/tonne paper}$$

$$\text{S}_{\text{ref,paper machine}} = 0,6\text{kg/tonne paper}$$

Emissions (COD, P, S and NO<sub>x</sub>) from the production of pulp and paper for grease-proof paper must satisfy the emission requirements in the Basic Module:

The total of the loading points  $P_{\text{emissions total}}$ , must not exceed 4.0

$$P_{\text{emissions total}} = P_{\text{COD}} + P_{\text{P}} + P_{\text{S}} + P_{\text{NO}_x} \leq 4.0$$

None of the points for individual emissions ( $P_{\text{COD}}$ ,  $P_{\text{P}}$ ,  $P_{\text{S}}$ , and  $P_{\text{NO}_x}$ ) must exceed 1.5.

Emission points are calculated with the aid of a technical description of the production processes in which the emissions are related to reference values for the production process. A more detailed description of the requirements relating to documentation and calculation methods can be found in the Basic Module.

Result of calculations:

$P_{\text{COD}}$ : \_\_\_\_\_

$P_{\text{P}}$ : \_\_\_\_\_

$P_{\text{S}}$ : \_\_\_\_\_

$P_{\text{NO}_x}$ : \_\_\_\_\_

$P_{\text{emissiontotal}}$ : \_\_\_\_\_

Calculations and data showing fulfilment of the requirement.

Appendix no \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration

If the licence is to be registered in another participant Nordic country, the following documentation must be submitted to Nordic Ecolabelling:

- Registration form.
- A copy of the licence.
- Registration number in national recycling system for products and packaging or other relevant documentation showing that the requirements concerning recycling systems are fulfilled, see R5.
- Documentation stating that national legislation for paper in contact with foodstuffs is fulfilled, see R17.

## The design of the Nordic Ecolabel

The Nordic Ecolabel and the allocated ID number (shown as 000 000) shall have the following design:



000 000

Grease-proof paper

The subtext, “Grease-proof paper”, is voluntary. The Nordic Ecolabel shall be affixed to the packaging.

## The validity of the criteria document

This criteria document for ecolabelling of grease-proof paper, version 3.0, was adopted by the Nordic Ecolabelling Board on 9 October 2003 and will remain in force up to and including 31 March 2008.

The Secretariat Managers Meeting decided on 31 January 2007 to prolong the validity of the document. The new version is called 3.1 and it is valid until 31 December 2009.

The Secretariat Managers Meeting decided on 3 December 2008 to prolong the validity of the document. The new version is called 3.2 and it is valid until 31 December 2011.

The Secretariat Managers Meeting decided on 9 November 2010 to prolong the validity of the document. The new version is called 3.3 and it is valid until 30 June 2013.

The Secretariat Managers Meeting decided on 10 May 2012 to prolong the validity of the document. The new version is called 3.4 and it is valid until 30 June 2014.

The Secretariat Managers Meeting decided on 15 May 2013 to prolong the validity of the document. The new version is called 3.5 and it is valid until 31 March 2015.

During the period of validity the Nordic Ecolabelling Board may decide corrections, clarifications and/or prolongations by publishing a new version of the criteria document. This will normally not affect already approved licences.

The Nordic Ecolabelling Board is required, at least 12 months prior to the expiry date, to give notice of which criteria will apply thereafter.



## Glossary

COD:	Chemical Oxygen Demand. A measure of the quantity of oxygen consumed during the chemical degradation of organic materials.
P:	Chemical designation for phosphorus. In this document P means phosphorus bound to water.
S:	Chemical designation for elementary sulphur. In this document S means all forms of sulphur compounds in gas form to air.
NO <sub>x</sub> :	Joint chemical term for nitrogen oxides (NO, N <sub>2</sub> O and NO <sub>2</sub> ). In this document NO <sub>x</sub> means the total of NO and NO <sub>2</sub> measured as NO <sub>2</sub> .
P <sub>emission total</sub>	A calculation of points of the total of the loading points for emissions of COD, P, S and NO <sub>x</sub> divided among reference values for the production process of the paper. Emissions from pulp- and paper production are both included.



## Appendix 1

### Marketing of Nordic Ecolabelled grease-proof paper

We hereby confirm that we are acquainted with the regulations governing the Nordic Ecolabel as described in "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of Products".

We hereby undertake that the marketing of the product will comply with these regulations.

We also confirm that we are familiar with the criteria for the ecolabelling of grease-proof paper.

We undertake to ensure that the personnel responsible for marketing the ecolabelled products within our company receive information on the criteria governing the ecolabelling of grease-proof paper and "Regulations for the Nordic Ecolabelling of Products".

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Place/date	Name of company
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Person responsible	Tel. no. and e-mail
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Repeated in capital letters

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Marketing Manager	Tel. no. and e-mail
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Repeated in capital letters

Nordic Ecolabelling must be notified in the event of changes in the above personnel information.



**Appendix 2**  
**Environmental and quality assurance** (fill inn one of the following)

Licence applicant:

Pulp manufacturer:

\_\_\_\_\_

Licence applicant

\_\_\_\_\_

Subcontractor for

\_\_\_\_\_

Paper manufacturer

\_\_\_\_\_

Pulp producer

\_\_\_\_\_

Trade name

\_\_\_\_\_

Trade name

We hereby confirm that we are acquainted with the relevant module criteria for ecolabelling of paper products.

We hereby confirm the accuracy of the documentation specified in our application dated\_\_\_\_\_.

We approve of Nordic Ecolabelling controlling the fulfilment of the requirements during the validity period of the criteria.

We ensure that we will acquire a written permission from Nordic Ecolabelling before carrying out any changes that may be of relevance for the fulfilment of the ecolabelling requirements

We ensure that we, without delay, will notify Nordic Ecolabelling of any unforeseen non-conformities which may affect the product's ability to fulfil the ecolabelling requirements.

We undertake to conduct annual logs and reports in accordance with the ecolabelling criteria and submit them to Nordic Ecolabelling.

We ensure that we have a quality manual with written procedures for the following (enclosed):

- Procedures for securing the traceability of Nordic Ecolabelled products through the entire production process
- Procedures for handling non-conformities and changes in the production of the Nordic Ecolabelled product, and reporting these to the contact person and Nordic Ecolabelling
- Procedure for logs and annual reports

\_\_\_\_\_

Place/date

\_\_\_\_\_

Company name

\_\_\_\_\_

Person responsible, Title, Phone, E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_

Repeated in capital letters

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person, Title, Phone, E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_

Repeated in capital letters

*Nordic Ecolabelling must be notified in the event of changes in the above personnel information.*