



Our Policy on Manmade Cellulosic Fibres

Cellulosic fibres are typically manufactured from wood pulp. Forests constitute the largest and most significant ecosystems and are a key resource for local communities. Yet, despite their importance, there continues to be an alarming depletion of forests year on year, as a result of illegal deforestation, poor forestry management and land conversion. The demand for forest products is anticipated to increase, emphasising the need for sustainable management of these vital resources for future generations.

The manufacture of manmade cellulosic fibres often involves the use of highly toxic and corrosive chemicals. The discharge of pollutants into the air and chemicals into waterways can affect the delicate natural balance of ecosystems and water bodies and harm the health of factory workers and local communities.

We want to ensure these fibres used in our products are created as sustainably as possible, and this policy outlines our expectations for suppliers to work together towards this aim.



Our Introduction

At Sainsbury's, our core values are integral to how we do business and they enable us to drive lasting, positive change in communities across the UK and overseas. Our value, Sourcing with Integrity, means we seek to build resilient supply chains by sourcing products sustainably.

Manmade cellulosic fibres are the third most used fibre in our Tu clothing range and represents critical value to our business. We recognise the challenges involved in sourcing viscose and other manmade regenerated cellulosic fibres from an environmental, economic and social sustainability perspective and this policy is designed to communicate our expectations and standards to suppliers. We understand the sustainable sourcing of these fibres is a journey and encourage our suppliers to be as transparent as possible about their supply chains and share their findings with us.

This sustainable sourcing policy should be read alongside our Supplier Policy for Ethical Trade. The policy statements outlined in this document are in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation. Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all requirements laid down in law at the point of manufacture and where the products are finally sold to the customer. Whilst this policy is intended to help suppliers provide products suitable for Sainsbury's Brand, they do not absolve suppliers of their responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal and safety requirements for your products.

Our Commitment

- We will increase our supply chain transparency and review our supply chain to engage with suppliers who can demonstrate the use of verified standards or certifications outlined below
- We will engage with relevant industry initiatives and suppliers to drive standards and adopt more sustainable practices
- We will work with our suppliers to support collaborative and visionary solutions that protect remaining [Ancient and Endangered Forests](#)

Our Scope

Non-food grocery, clothing and general merchandise products that contain manmade regenerated cellulosic fibres including viscose, rayon, lyocell, modal and other trademarked brands. Manmade regenerated cellulosic threads and trims are currently out of scope due to their small volumes or will be addressed in the future.

Our Approach

We recognise the Changing Markets [Roadmap towards responsible viscose and modal fibre manufacturing](#) and will support our suppliers to meet this high standard.

We will collaborate with Canopy to encourage the development of innovative fibre feedstock sources that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a preference for recycled fabrics and/or agricultural residues. We will also preference manmade cellulosic products that include a minimum of 50% of these innovative fibre feedstock sources and set timelines and targets for procurement by 2025.

With regards to traceability within our manmade regenerated cellulosic fibres value chain, suppliers are required to declare to us the information outlined below to enable us to track compliance, progress and create future targets. We understand these supply chains can be complex, so anticipate suppliers to make all reasonable efforts to provide us with the information requested, increasing transparency year on year.

Supply chain traceability

Suppliers shall make all reasonable efforts to declare to us on an ongoing basis, the origin and manufacturing route of manmade regenerated cellulosic fibres. If the information is unknown at the time of declaration, suppliers should work towards understanding their supply chain so they can declare this to us as soon as possible. Suppliers should use our *Manmade Cellulosic Fibres Reporting Template* to provide us with this information. This includes, but is not limited to, information on:

- Country and company of fibre manufacturer
- Sustainability standards or initiatives implemented at each stage of the supply chain, as outlined below

Cellulose wood and pulp production

Our commitment for raw material sourcing is aligned with Canopy to ensure that supply chains are free of ancient and endangered forests as part of the CanopyStyle initiative.

We support approaches and systems to build a future that does not use ancient and endangered forests in manmade regenerated cellulosic fibres. This includes eliminating sourcing from endangered species habitat and ancient and endangered forests such as the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests, Coastal Temperate Rainforests, tropical forests and peatlands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa.

We will work with Canopy and our suppliers to support collaborative and visionary solutions that protect remaining ancient and endangered forests in the Coastal Temperate Rainforests on Vancouver Island and the Great Bear Rainforest, Canada's Boreal Forests, and Indonesia's Rainforests.

We will work to eliminate sourcing from companies that are logging forests illegally, from tree plantations established after 1994 through the conversion or simplification of natural forests, from areas being logged in contravention of indigenous and local peoples' rights, or from other controversial suppliers.

In line with Sainsbury's Human Rights Policy, we request that actors in our value chain respect the rights of indigenous peoples and rural communities to give or withhold their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) before logging rights are allocated or plantations developed. This includes complaints and disputes being resolved and human rights violations remediated through a transparent, accountable and agreeable dispute resolution process.

If we find that our fibres are sourced from ancient and endangered forests, endangered species habitat or illegal logging, we will engage our suppliers to change practices and re-evaluate our relationship with them.

Where the above conditions are met, we request that fibre manufacturers source from responsibly managed forests, and have a preference for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification. We endorse this over other certifications, as we uphold that the FSC currently ensures the best assurance of meeting our sustainability ambitions.

Fibre production

By 2022 we will only work with suppliers who source from fibre manufacturers that achieve a 'green shirt' on the [Canopy Hot Button Report](#).

In addition, we require our suppliers to work with fibre manufacturers who are committed to implementing the Changing Markets *Roadmap towards responsible viscose and modal fibre manufacturing*, which includes moving to a closed-loop manufacturing system to ensure emission controls of chemical recovery rates by 2023-2025. This system aims to recycle the majority of chemicals used during production and prevents the production process from negatively impacting on human health and the environment.

Our Document Details

Document Reference	Sainsbury's Document Specialist	Amendment History	Date
PL003-V1	Stephanie Velez	New Document	April 2020

The requirements outlined in this document are supported by other Sainsbury's documents, where reference to this subject matter may be made. For example, any specific labelling requirements will be outlined in Our Reference Guide to Labelling.

The policy statements outlined in this document are in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation.

Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all requirements laid down in law at the point of manufacture and where the products are finally sold to the customer.

Whilst this Policy is intended to help suppliers provide products suitable for Sainsbury's Brand, they do not absolve you of your responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal and safety requirements for your products.

For the purposes of this document Sainsbury's means Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited, Argos Limited and Habitat Retail Limited only.

Sainsbury's Argos is the trading name of both:

- 1) Argos Limited, Registered office: 489-499 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, MK9 2NW, registered number: 01081551 (England and Wales); and
- 2) Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited, Registered office: 33 Holborn, London, EC1N 2HT, registered number: 03261722 (England and Wales).