

Manville
October 17, 1944

P. D. Cannon

The Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.
Sydney, Australia - Blue Fibre

The three samples of Australian blue fibre have been examined and the Grade #3 compared with African MS Blue. Grade #1 crude contains a large percentage of fibre lengths varying from 1-1/8 to 1-3/4 inches. This fibre is clean and free from rock. After opening in our laboratory opener the fibre is fluffy and would appear suitable for use in textiles.

Grade #2 crude is shorter than the #1 grade. It does not contain fibre in the lengths of 1-1/8 to 1-3/4 inches. The longest fibres are 1 inch with the bulk around 1/2 to 3/4 inches in length. This fibre contains approximately 2% rock. It can be opened easily so that a large percentage of fibre will appear on the largest screen opening.

Grade #3 crude contains longer fibre than MS Blue. Approximately 6% of the crude is 1 inch and longer, while the MS Blue crudes do not usually measure over 3/4 inch in length. The wet screen test shows that the Australian #3 has 14% more fibre on the +14M screen than the MS Blue. The MS Blue also contains approximately 2 to 3 times more fines -200M than the Australian Blue. If the Australian Blue could be used in place of MS Blue, it is cleaner and would give a greater fibre value for the money invested. A plant trial on this fibre would be recommended if the price is comparable to MS Blue.

M. S. Badollet

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cc - J. C. Kelleher, G.H.
E. R. Williams
D. T. Colton
R. L. Barbehenn
File