

Ardmore

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Paoli Laboratory

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WHITE CORTEX

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We were able to have the light asbestos required for White Cortex included in the recent shipment from Canada. This means that we should have all the necessary raw materials for making this product at Ames in about 2 weeks. We expect to be able to furnish White Cortex shortly thereafter.

In addition, we have continued to develop this formula with respect to the comments from Des Moines and other districts. We have furnished Ames with a formula which we feel is extremely versatile and should fulfill the requirements for all of the types of texturing which we know of. We do not want it to be used for joint finishing. The formula is much the same as that sent to Des Moines, being modified to give longer working life, greater coverage, and more resistance to settling.

It was compared with Vintex (Reardon), Walcoats (Walco Co.) and Craftex (National Gypsum) Textures. The White Cortex was the whitest. The working life was the same or slightly longer than Craftex and substantially longer than the other two. The depth of texture was somewhat greater than Vintex and Walcoats but not as great as Craftex at the same water/cement ratio. Heavier or deeper textures can be obtained with White Cortex by using a little less water. It is difficult if not impossible to obtain fine or light textures with Craftex. Our product gives the most uniform texture and doesn't tend to lap as badly as the others. Craftex was next best. All four products were applied as a skip trowel texture and where all were satisfactory, ours was the easiest to apply. All of the texture products painted satisfactorily.

We also made a settling test with White Cortex and it ranks with those giving the best results in tests made sometime ago. We didn't have enough Vintex, Walcoats, or Craftex to make settling tests.

Some information has been developed with respect to mixing White Cortex and latex (water thinned) paints as is sometimes done. It appears that a reasonably satisfactory one coat application may be obtained with a mixture of $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of flat white latex paint and 25 lbs. of White Cortex previously mixed to approximately a joint finishing consistency. The resultant stippled texture has good hiding power and gives an appearance similar to a sand float finish. At the moment it doesn't look like colored latex paints will give satisfactory one coat applications, but we will look into this further as time permits.