

SUBJECT 5

Re: Flour or Meal

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Proponent: Freight Classification Development Council

Present Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
71390	Flour , cellulose, edible, in bags, boxes or drums	60
71420	Flour or Meal , press cake, almond, apricot or peach kernel, in drums	85
	FOODSTUFFS GROUP: subject to item 72000	
73030	Flour , cooked, in bags, boxes or drums.....	65
73040	Flour , cassava, sago or tapioca; in bags, boxes or drums.....	55
73060	Flour , gelatinized, in bags, boxes or drums	65
73080	Flour , potato, in bags, boxes or drums	55
73100	Flour , rice, in bags, boxes or drums.....	55
73120	Flour, Grits or Meal , cottonseed or soybean, see Note, item 73122, in bags, boxes or drums.....	55
73122	NOTE—Also applies on soy protein concentrates or isolates.	
73140	Flour or Corn Meal , edible, NOI, including Cake, Bread, Brownie or Muffin Mixes , see Notes, items 73142, 73144 and 73146, in drums, cloth or paper bags, containers in boxes, or Packages 128 or 2456.....	50
73142	NOTE—Applies on cereal or grain flours or corn meal blended with fruit flour, vegetable flour or other ingredients, with or without chemical constituents, and grain flours, NOI, or blends of grain flour with cereal flours or corn meal containing in excess of 6 percent chemical constituents.	
73144	NOTE—Except when total weight of shipment in any authorized package is 6,000 pounds or more, grain products in bags each weighing less than 10 pounds will not be accepted loose but must be enclosed in outer containers as follows: Bags, burlap or jute; Bags, cotton cloth, weighing not less than 5 ounces per square yard and containing not less than 36 threads to the inch each way; OR Bags, paper.	
73146	NOTE—Inner containers may contain the necessary ingredients or icing powders for completion of the finished product, or not to exceed one foil baking pan.	
	GRAIN PRODUCTS GROUP: subject to item 89300	
89430	Grain Flour , NOI, see Note, item 89432, in bags, boxes, drums, pails or Package 2456	50
89432	NOTE—Applies only on grain flours, NOI, without chemical constituents or with not to exceed 6 percent chemical constituents, or blends of grain flours with cereal flours without chemical constituents, and does not apply on prepared flour, self-raising flour, nor on blends of grain flour with fruit or vegetable flours or other ingredients.	

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Present Classification Provisions — Concluded

Item	Description	Class
	GRAIN PRODUCTS GROUP: subject to item 89300	
89450	Grain Flour , self-rising, see Note, item 89452, in boxes, drums, or in cloth or paper bags	50
89452	NOTE—Applies only on grain flours, NOI, or blends of grain flour with cereal flours with not exceeding 6 percent chemical constituents, and does not apply on prepared flour, nor on blends of grain flour with fruit or vegetable flours or other ingredients.	
89650	Meal , corn, in drums, in cloth or paper bags or in containers in boxes	50

Proposed Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
71390	Flour , cellulose, edible, etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
71420	Flour or Meal , press cake, almond, apricot or peach kernel, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
	FOODSTUFFS GROUP: subject to item 72000	
73030	Flour , cooked, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73040	Flour , cassava, sago or tapioca, etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73060	Flour , gelatinized, etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73080	Flour , potato, etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73100	Flour , rice, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73120	Flour, Grits or Meal , cottonseed or soybean, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73122	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
73140	Flour or Corn Meal , edible, NOI, including Cake, Bread, Brownie or Muffin Mixes , etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
73142	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
73144	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
73146	NOTE—⇒Cancel; see item B-NEW.	

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Proposed Classification Provisions — Concluded

Item	Description	Class
	FOODSTUFFS GROUP: subject to item 72000	
⇒A-NEW	Flour or Meal, viz.: Flour , NOI; Meal , NOI, including Corn Meal ; Mixes , baking, NOI, including Bread, Brownie, Cake, Cookie, Muffin, Pancake or Waffle Mixes , see Note, item B-NEW; Mixes , batter, breading or coating, NOI; In bags, boxes, drums or Packages 128 or 2456, subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:	
Sub 1	Less than 10	125
Sub 2	10 but less than 15.....	85
Sub 3	15 but less than 30.....	70
Sub 4	30 or greater.....	55
⇒B-NEW	NOTE—Also applies on other ingredients or complement of accessories necessary for completion of the finished product when packaged in same box.	
	GRAIN PRODUCTS GROUP: subject to item 89300	
89430	Grain Flour , NOI, etc.....	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
89432	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
89450	Grain Flour , self-rising, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW
89452	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
89650	Meal , corn, etc	⇒Cancel; see item A-NEW

Analysis

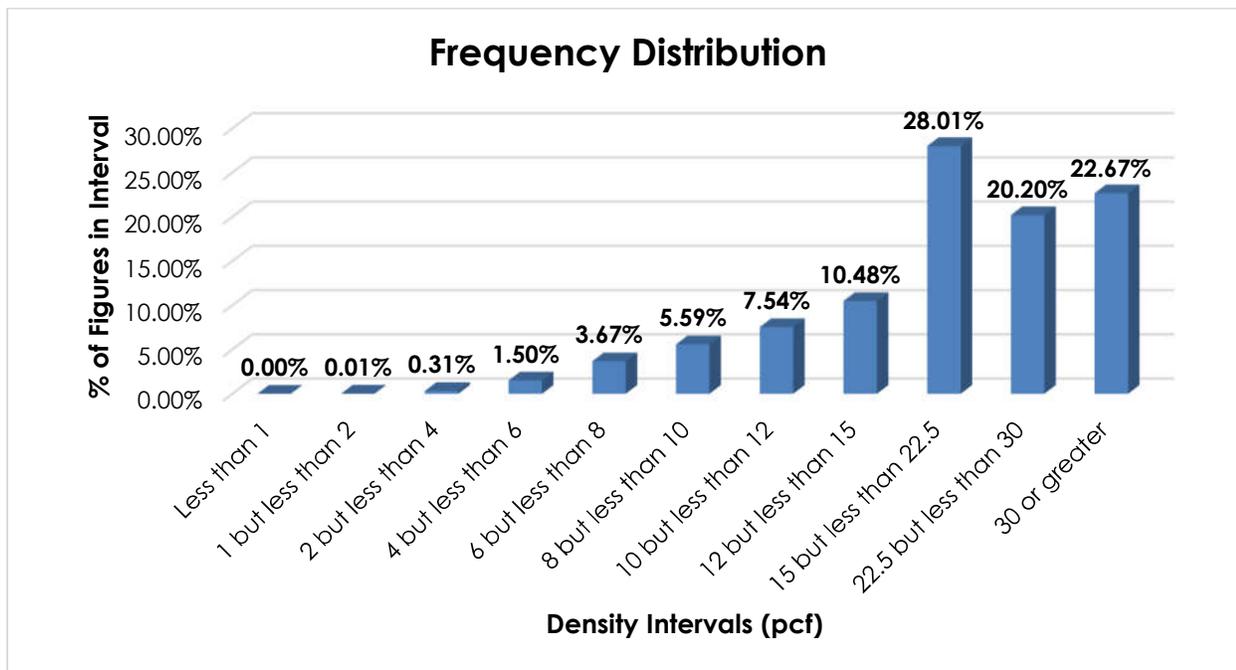
Introduction

This proposal is based on information developed through Research Project 1483, which was initiated to investigate the transportation characteristics of flour or corn meal, as embraced by item 73140. During the course of research, the project was expanded to include other flour or meal, as shown in the Present Classification Provisions herein.

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Transportation Characteristics

Density—The information of record includes 48,330 density observations submitted by carriers, collected during dock surveys and obtained from the FCDC’s Density Study¹. The densities range from 1.49 to 76.02 pcf, with an overall average density of 21.94 pcf. As shown in the graph below, the density distribution is left-skewed, with clustered peaks around the average, and a secondary peak in the 30 pcf or greater interval. Density breaks at 10, 15 and 30 pcf address the spread and modality of the distribution.



When the data is evaluated based on the proposed density breaks, the density ranges and averages in the table below emerge.

Density Group (pcf)	Density Range (pcf)	Average Density (pcf)
Less than 10	1.49 – 9.99	7.73
10 but less than 15	10.00 – 14.99	12.43
15 but less than 30	15.00 – 29.99	21.92
30 or greater	30.00 – 76.02	36.48

Handling, Stowability and Liability—Care must be taken to avoid stowing the involved commodities with hazardous materials or other freight that may pose a contamination risk. They may also be damaged by freight with which stowed or by the elements. However, there have been no reports of unusual or significant handling, stowability or liability issues.

¹ The Density Study is part of an ongoing effort by the FCDC to collect information on actual shipments across all product categories handled by the LTL industry. Carriers that choose to participate in the Study periodically submit shipment data captured through their respective freight auditing programs. The FCDC uses verifiable data points, identified by NMFC item, that include the weight and the dimensions and/or cube of the shipping unit.

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Conclusion

Based on the foregoing analysis, items 71390, 71420, 73030, 73040, 73060, 73080, 73100, 73120, 73140, 89430, 89450 and 89650 would be canceled with reference to a new item for flour or meal.

The new item would provide classes predicated on density breaks at 10, 15 and 30 pcf². The average densities and classes, per FCDC guidelines, are shown in the table below.

Density Group (pcf)	Average Density (pcf)	FCDC Minimum Average Density Guideline (pcf)	Class Based on FCDC Density Guidelines
Less than 10	7.73	7	125
10 but less than 15	12.43	12	85
15 but less than 30	21.92	15	70
30 or greater	36.48	35	55

As proposed, the new item would provide a "viz." format to name the various flour or meal embraced by the item, in the interest of clarification and simplification.

Furthermore, Note, item 73146 would be canceled with reference to a new Note to clarify application. Notes, items 73122, 73142, 73144, 89432 and 89452 would be canceled as having no further application.

² The density provisions would include reference to Item (Rule) 170, the inadvertence clause.