

Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA)

Biofuel Quality and Labeling Requirements

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Biodiesel Specifications

B100 biodiesel intended for blending must meet the latest version of American Standards of Testing and Measurements (ASTM) D6751, Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel (B99) Blend Stock for Distillate Fuels.

Blends of biodiesel fuel and diesel fuels must meet the following:

- The base diesel fuel must meet ASTM D975 Standard Specification for Distillate Fuels;
- The biodiesel blend stock must meet the ASTM 6751 Standard Specification for Biodiesel (B99) Blend Stock for Distillate Fuels;
- Accurate labeling of blend percentage as determined by test method EN 14079 "Liquid petroleum products - Determination of fatty methyl esters (FAME) in middle distillates – Infrared spectroscopy method". When ASTM develops a comparable standard test method, the ASTM method will become the standard method for biodiesel fuel.

Biodiesel Dispensers

The biodiesel dispensers must be approved by National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) for standard #2 diesel fuel. The dispenser (pump) must be subsequently and correctly calibrated with the blend of biodiesel fuel being dispensed. Fuel dispensers at cardlock locations must be a full computing device when used for retail sales.

Where does WSDA Test Biofuels?

To help us ensure consistency in the biofuel industry, we perform fuel testing and audits at the following fuel distribution levels:

Producers;
Marketers/distributors;
Carriers; and
Retailers (tanks & pumps).

How does Washington State Department of Agriculture Ensure Quality?

We use nationally recognized standards such as the ASTM and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

<http://www.astm.org>

<http://www.nist.gov>

WSDA performs random biofuel testing, field assessment of fuels and sampling throughout the fuel distribution system.

WSDA checks the accuracy of blend percentage labels at the retailer(s). Accurate pump labeling informs consumers of warranty issues and the environmental benefits of higher blends.

For higher biofuel blends, check the warranty recommendations at http://www.biodiesel.org/resources/fuelfactsheets/standards_and_warranties.shtm.

Labeling Requirements

The Washington State Department of Agriculture determines the fuel labeling requirements on the NIST Handbook 130 as modified by WAC 16-662-115.

Biodiesel Dispensers must meet the Following Label Standards:

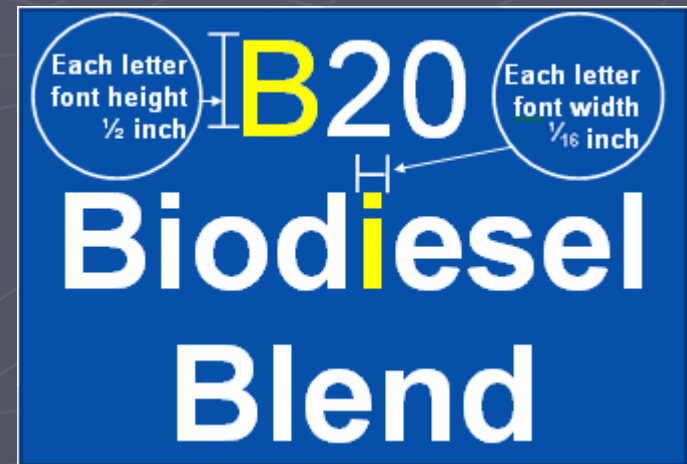
- Retail dispensers of biodiesel blends containing no less than 2% and no more than 5% biodiesel must be labeled "**Containing up to 5% biodiesel**".
- Retail dispensers containing less than 2% biodiesel may not be labeled as dispensing biodiesel or biodiesel blends.
- Biodiesel blends 5% and more must be labeled with the volume percentage of biodiesel.

The label must be placed in the upper 50% of the dispenser front panel, in a position clear and conspicuous from the drivers' position.

- The text on the label must be a type *at least* ½ inch in height and 1/16 inch in width with the capital letter "**B**" followed by the volume percentage of biodiesel and ending with the words "**Biodiesel**" or "**Biodiesel Blend**", whichever is appropriate.

For example:

B10 Biodiesel Blend,
B20 Biodiesel Blend, or
B100 Biodiesel.



Ethanol Dispensers must be Labeled

For ethanol blends 10% or less, the pump must be labeled **“Contains up to 10% Ethanol”**.

For ethanol blends greater than 10%, the pump must be labeled with the volume percentage of ethanol. Use capital letter **“E”** followed by the volume percentage of ethanol.

E85
Ethanol

Consumer Confidence

The quality of fuel in Washington State is regulated by the Motor Fuel Quality Act (19.112 RCW). This rule places an obligation on fuel industries that produce, distribute and retail fuel as well as on WSDA to ensure the consumer is getting the quality and quantity of fuel they pay for. WSDA does this by verifying fuel pricing, testing and inspecting commercial devices, investigating complaints, and routinely test fuel quality.

Our job is to protect consumers from misleading marketing or retailing of fuels that do not measure up to state and federal quality standards.

Our goal is to promote market place equality and confidence in motor fuel transactions for consumers and businesses.

Contact Information

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Dept of Agriculture – Weights and Measures main page
<http://agr.wa.gov/Inspection/WeightsMeasures/default.asp>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
<http://agr.wa.gov/Inspections/WeightsMeasures/FAQ.htm>