

November 4, 2009

## Biodegradability – Clay Coated Paperboards

All organic material will biodegrade in nature. The time needed to decompose in nature is dependent on several factors i.e. temperature, humidity, pH and bacterias.

Korsnäs White, Korsnäs Light and Korsnäs Carry consist of 75-80% of virgin fibres from wood e.g. sulphate pulp and CTMP. The sulphate pulp consists to more than 99% (dry) of cellulose and hemicellulose. Both cellulose and hemicellulose can easily be attacked by a number of microorganisms and are generally recognised as the easiest biodegradable parts of wood. The wood containing fibres in the CTMP-pulp is also biodegradable but it is a slower process.

The second largest constituent is inorganic, natural occurring minerals e.g. chalk and clay. The other chemicals used have different biodegradability. Paper chemicals such as rosin size and starch biodegrades easily while the synthetic latex, used in the coating, has lower biodegradability.

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