

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on December 27, 2017, by Berwick Offray, LLC, Berwick, Pennsylvania. Countervailing and antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these proceedings if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Commerce") makes an affirmative determination of subsidization and/or dumping. U.S. producers of plastic decorative ribbon have provided the USITC with allegations about sales or revenue that they have lost due to competition from imports of plastic decorative ribbon from China. One or more domestic producer(s) have named your firm in such an allegation. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/plastic_decorative_ribbon/preliminary.htm

Plastic decorative ribbon covered by these investigations is certain plastic decorative ribbon having a width (measured at the narrowest span of the ribbon) of less than or equal to four (4) inches, including but not limited to ribbon wound onto itself, a spool, a core or a tube (with or without flanges), attached to a card or strip; wound into a keg- or egg-shaped configuration; made into bows, bow-like items, or other shapes or configurations; and whether or not packaged or labeled for retail sale. The subject merchandise is typically made of substrates of polypropylene, but may be made in whole or in part of any type of plastic, including without limitation, plastic derived from petroleum products and plastic derived from cellulose products.

The subject merchandise includes ribbons comprised of one or more layers of substrates made, in whole or in part, of plastics adhered to each other, regardless of the method used to adhere the layers together, including without limitation, ribbons comprised of layers of substrates adhered to each other through a lamination process. Subject merchandise also includes ribbons comprised of (a) one or more layers of substrates made, in whole or in part, of plastics adhered to (b) one or more layers of substrates made, in whole or in part, of non-plastic materials, including, without limitation, substrates made, in whole or in part, of fabric.

The ribbons subject to these investigations may be of any color or combination of colors (including without limitation, ribbons that are transparent, translucent or opaque) and may or may not bear words or images, including those of a holiday motif. The subject merchandise includes ribbons with embellishments and/or treatments, including, without limitation, ribbons that are printed, hot-stamped, coated, laminated, flocked, crimped, die-cut, embossed (or that otherwise have impressed designs, images, words or patterns), and ribbons with holographic, metallic, glitter, or iridescent finishes.

Subject merchandise includes "pull-bows," an assemblage of ribbons connected to one another, folded flat, and equipped with a means to form such ribbons into the shape of a bow by pulling on a length of material affixed to such assemblage, and "pre-notched" bows, an assemblage of notched ribbon loops arranged one inside the other with the notches in alignment and affixed to each other where notched, and which the end user forms into a bow by separating and spreading the loops circularly around the notches, which form the center of the bow. Subject merchandise includes ribbons that are packaged with non-subject merchandise, including ensembles that include ribbons and other products, such as gift wrap, gift bags, gift tags and/or other gift packaging products. Unless the context otherwise clearly indicates, the word "ribbon" used in the singular includes the plural and the plural "ribbons" includes the singular.

Excluded from the scope of this investigation are the following: (1) ribbons formed exclusively by weaving plastic threads together; (2) ribbons that have metal wire in, on, or along the entirety of each of the longitudinal edges of the ribbon; (3) ribbons with an adhesive coating covering the entire span between the longitudinal edges of the ribbon for the entire length of the ribbon; (4) ribbon formed into a bow without a tab or other means for attaching the bow to an object using adhesives, where the bow has: (a) an outer layer that is either flocked or made of fabric, and (b) a flexible metal wire at the base that is suitable for attaching the bow to a Christmas tree or other object by twist-tying; (5) elastic ribbons, meaning ribbons that elongate when stretched and return to their original dimension when the stretching load is removed; (6) ribbons affixed as a decorative detail to non-subject merchandise, such as a gift bag, gift box, gift tin, greeting card or plush toy, or affixed (including by tying) as a decorative detail to packaging containing non-subject merchandise; (7) ribbons that are (a) affixed to non-subject merchandise as a working component of such non-subject merchandise, such as where the ribbon comprises a book marker, bag cinch, or part of an identity card holder, or (b) affixed (including by tying) to non-subject merchandise as a working component that holds or packages such non-subject merchandise or attaches packaging or labeling to such non-subject merchandise, such as a "belly band" around a pair of pajamas, a pair of socks or a blanket; (8) imitation raffia made of plastics having a thickness not more than one (1) mil when measured in an unfolded/untwisted state; and (9) ribbons in the form of bows having a diameter of less than seven-eighths (7/8) of an inch, or having a diameter of more than 16 inches. For purposes of this exclusion, the diameter of a bow is equal to the diameter of the smallest circular ring through which the bow will pass without compressing the bow.

Merchandise covered by this investigation is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS") under statistical categories 3920.20.0015 and 3926.40.0010. Merchandise covered by this investigation also may enter under subheadings 3920.10.0000; 3920.30.0000; 3920.43.5000; 3920.49.0000; 3920.62.0020; 3920.62.0090; 3920.69.0000; 3921.90.1100; 3921.90.1500; 3921.90.1910; 3921.90.1950; 3921.90.4010; 3921.90.4090; 3926.90.9905; 3926.90.9910; 3926.90.9925; 3926.90.9930; 3926.90.9996; 5404.90.0000; 9505.90.4000; 4601.99.9000; 4602.90.0000; 5609.00.3000; 5609.00.4000; and 9505.10.2500. These HTSUS statistical categories and subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

Reporting of information.---If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates. If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions.

Confidentiality.-- The commercial and financial data furnished in response to this questionnaire that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, general characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

Verification.-- The information submitted in this questionnaire is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to this questionnaire, as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with this proceeding, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with this proceeding or other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

Contact information.--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this survey. This may or may not be the person whose signature is at the bottom of page 1.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single response.

PURCHASE INFORMATION

II-1. **Purchases and imports.**--Report separately your firm’s domestic purchases and imports of plastic decorative ribbon.

“Purchase” – Purchase from a U.S. entity such as a U.S. producer, a U.S. importer, or other U.S. firm.

“Import” – Purchase directly from a foreign supplier and your firm is the importer of record.

Item	2014	2015	2016
	Quantity (in square yards)		
Purchases of plastic decorative ribbon produced in—			
United States			
China			
All other countries ¹			
Sources unknown			
Total purchases	0	0	0
Imports of plastic decorative ribbon from—			
China			
All other countries ¹			
Total imports	0	0	0
¹ Please identify these countries:			

2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**--Please indicate how the shares of your firm's purchases of plastic decorative ribbon from different sources have changed since January 1, 2014.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Decreased	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sources unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. **Major purchasing factors.**--Please list, in order of their importance, the main factors your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase plastic decorative ribbon.

1.	
2.	
3.	
Please list any other factors that are very important in your purchase decisions:	

4. Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.—

(a) Since January 2014, did your firm purchase imports of plastic decorative ribbon from China instead of U.S.-produced plastic decorative ribbon?

Source	Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c))	No (If “No” skip to next question)
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If you responded “Yes” to part (a), was the imported product priced lower than the domestic product?

Source	Yes	No
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(c) If you responded “Yes” to part (a), was price a primary reason for purchasing subject imports rather than domestic product?

Source	Yes	If Yes, estimate the quantity of imports purchased instead of domestic product since January 2014 (in square yards)	No	If No, please indicate the reason your firm purchased imports instead of domestic product
China	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

5. **U.S. producers and import competition.**—

(a) Since January 1, 2014, in connection with a sale or offer to sell plastic decorative ribbon to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced plastic decorative ribbon in order to compete with lower-priced imports of plastic decorative ribbon from China?

Source	Yes (also respond to question part (b))	No (If “No”, skip to next question)	Don’t know
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If your firm responded “yes,” please provide an estimate of the reduction in U.S. producers’ prices, and any additional explanations, such as timing (e.g., months/years), frequency of price reductions, or other market/competitive factors.

Source	Estimated reduction in U.S. prices (percent)	Additional explanation, including such information as timing (e.g., months/years), frequency of price reductions, or other market/competitive factors
China	%	

6. **Method of purchase**--Please provide a general description of your firm’s method(s) of purchase (e.g., individual purchase, contract, bids, Internet purchases, etc.) for plastic decorative ribbon.

7. **Other explanations**--Please provide any additional comments in this box.

OMB INFORMATION

8. **OMB statistics.**--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this survey.

Hours	Dollars

The questions in this survey have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this survey is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the survey.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this survey. Please attach such comments to your response or send to the Office of Investigations, USITC, 500 E St. SW, Washington, DC 20436.

HOW TO FILE YOUR SURVEY RESPONSE

Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the survey document.

Please submit the completed survey using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word survey or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

- **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**—Upload the MS Word survey along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission’s secure upload facility:

- **Web address:** <https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/>
- **Enter Investigation:** Select “plastic decorative ribbon” in the drop down menu
- **Pin:** **DECO**

- **E-mail.**—E-mail the MS Word survey to Nabil.Abbyad@usitc.gov; include a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1). *Submitters are strongly encouraged to encrypt nonpublic documents that are electronically transmitted to the Commission to protect your sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. The USITC secure drop-box system and the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS) use Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 cryptographic algorithms to encrypt data in transit. Submitting your nonpublic documents by a means that does not use these encryption algorithms (such as by email) may subject your firm’s nonpublic information to unauthorized disclosure during transmission. If you choose a non-encrypted method of electronic transmission, the Commission warns you that the risk of such possible unauthorized disclosure is assumed by you and not by the Commission.*

If your firm did not purchase this product, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.