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**OFFGRADE:** Offgrade HDPE BM HIC was offered at 52 cpp railcar FOB for delivery to the upper Midwest. HDPE wide spec dairy was steady in the mid-50s cpp bulk truck (48,000 lbs) delivered Chicago area.

**LDPE REPRO:** LDPE film repro was done at 30 cpp FOB Houston area with a resale price of about 35 cpp. In the western US and Mountain states, LDPE film repro was seen in a wide range of 30-50 cpp delivered. Demand has been strong this year for recycled LDPE film as pressure mounts to get recycled units into new plastic bags, wrapping and other LDPE film packaging materials, a similar dynamic playing out in other plastic recycling markets.

**HDPE REGRIND:** HDPE frac-melt mixed color regrind was done at 38-42 cpp delivered locations in the Southeast, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic (36-40 cpp FOB), up a net 3 cpp from business done a week ago. HDPE injection regrind was unchanged at 36 cpp FOB Houston and locations in the Southeast.

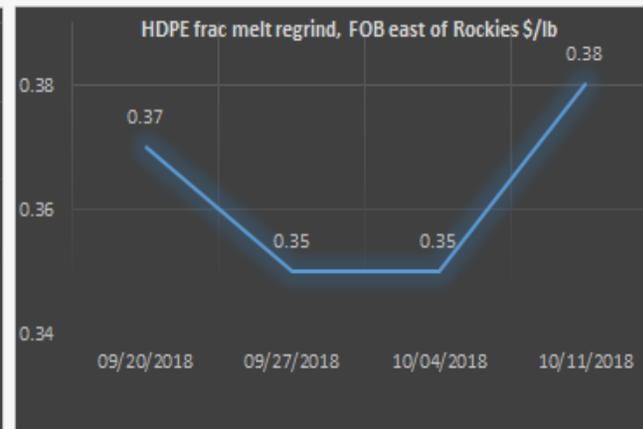
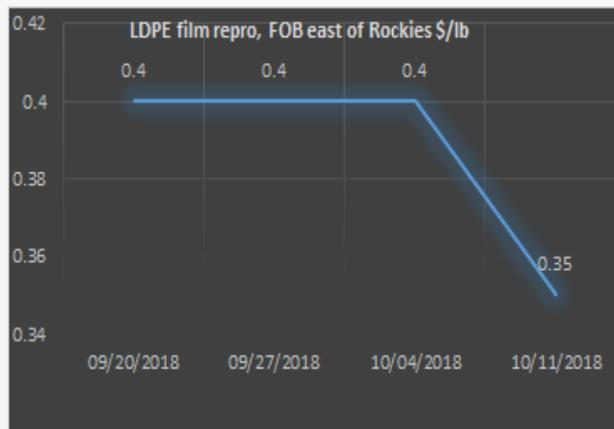
**SCRAP BALES:** HDPE curbside mixed colors bales were steady this week at 14-16 cpp FOB locations east of the Rockies. Dirty HMW scrap was in the single digits delivered Southeast.

**LLDPE PRIME:** Oct LLDPE butene film was unchanged this week at 42 cpp railcar FOB Houston.

**PCR:** HDPE natural post-consumer resin (PCR) was done at 73 cpp FOB Southeast, down a net 4 cpp from business reported a week ago, and was last seen at 65 cpp FOB Southern California.

Lower prices for natural curbside HDPE bales was the primary reason for the drop in PCR prices in the Southeast. Natural HDPE PCR with an FDA designation was 8-10 cpp higher than non-FDA.

## POLYETHYLENE



	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week
<b>REPRO/PELLET</b>				
HDPE HMW, FOB Southeast	0.460-0.480	0.470	-	0.010
HDPE Natural PCR, FOB Southeast	0.720-0.740	0.730	-0.040	-0.050
HDPE PCR MC, FOB Southeast	0.450-0.490	0.470		0.010
HDPE PCR Gray FOB Southern CA	0.550-0.570	0.560	-	-
HDPE PCR Natural FOB Southern CA	0.640-0.660	0.650	-	-
HDPE Frac Melt Black, FOB east of Rockies	0.440-0.460	0.450	-	-0.020
LDPE Film MC, FOB east of Rockies	0.340-0.360	0.350	-0.050	-0.050
LLDPE Film MC, FOB east of Rockies	0.340-0.360	0.350	-0.050	-0.050
<b>REGRIND/FLAKE</b>				
Dirty HDPE HMW, FOB Southeast	0.210-0.260	0.235	-	0.035
HDPE Frac Melt MC, FOB east of Rockies	0.360-0.400	0.380	0.030	0.010
HDPE Injection Crate MC, FOB east of Rockies	0.350-0.370	0.360	-	-0.010
LDPE Injection MC, FOB east of Rockies	0.400-0.440	0.420	-	0.050
<b>SCRAP</b>				
HDPE Natural Bales, Curbside FOB east of Rockies	0.390-0.410	0.400	-	0.015
HDPE MC Bales, Curbside FOB east of Rockies	0.140-0.160	0.150	-	-0.010
Grade A LDPE Film, FOB NY/NJ ports	0.070-0.090	0.080	-	-0.020

## POLYPROPYLENE

**REGRIND:** HoPP injection regrind was done at 36 cpp delivered Midwest locations.

**REPRO:** HoPP black injection repro this week was offered at 46 cpp also FOB Midwest locations.

**PCR:** CoPP black post-consumer resin was last seen 51-54 cpp delivered locations in the US and Canada, with utility grade units at the lower end of the price range.

**SCRAP:** Dirty PP flower pots, trays and planters were steady at 8 cpp delivered upper Midwest. Clean PP super sacks without liners were offered at 10 cpp FOB Houston area. No dirty PP super sacks—for use carrying perishable—were seen offered for domestic or export sale.

**PRIME/OFFGRADE:** Oct HoPP raffia offers were not seen as of Oct 11 this week; prices were flat at 72 cpp railcar FOB Houston.

**PRIME:** Aug HoPP raffia offers were not seen in the Houston railcar market on Aug 2, and prices were unchanged at 72 cpp. Imported HoPP IM was offered at 66 cpp supersacks FOB Los Angeles, while random CoPP (clarified) was available at 75 cpp bags FOB Los Angeles.

**OFFGRADE:** Offgrade low melt HoPP was done this week in the mid-50s cpp, reseller's price. High melt offgrade HoPP was at 64-66 cpp and CoPP of the same was at 66-68

	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week Δ
<b>REPRO/PELLET/PCR</b>				
HoPP Inj black FOB east of Rockies	0.410-0.450	0.430	-	-0.040
CoPP black PCR Delivered east of Rockies	0.510-0.540	0.525	-	-
<b>REGRIND/FLAKE</b>				
HoPP Inj MC FOB e Rockies	0.310-0.360	0.335	-	-0.005
CoPP Inj MC, FOB e Rockies	0.320-0.370	0.345	-	-0.025

## POLYSTYRENE

**REGRIND:** HIPS white regrind sourced from states in "the eastern half of the US," as the buyer put it, was done at 37 cpp and mixed colors of the same was done at 34 cpp, both delivered Midwest. GPPS mixed colors regrind sourced from Georgia was done at 13-15 cpp delivered Midwest. Buying interest for GPPS clear regrind was at 18 cpp delivered Midwest with no immediate selling interest.

**SCRAP:** HIPS white scrap from fast-food restaurants was done at 28 cpp and the same with printed material was done at 23 cpp, delivered Midwest. Dirty HIPS flower pots were offered at 12 cpp delivered Midwest.

**OFFGRADE:** Offgrade HIPS was steady this week in the low-mid 70s cpp railcar delivered. Fresh offgrade GPPS availability was put in the low 70s cpp railcar delivered.

**PRIME:** HIPS branded prime was at 90 cpp and GPPS (crystal) of the same was at 83 cpp, railcar delivered north of Houston and steady from last week.

**ABS:** Natural general purpose prime ABS imported from Asia was steady at \$1.00-1.03/lb, terms undisclosed.

**PRIME ABS:** US imported general purpose ABS was offered at \$1.05/lb DDP., steady from late Apr.

	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week Δ
<b>REPRO/PELLET</b>				
GPPS Clear, FOB*	0.590-0.610	0.600	-	0.120
GPPS White, FOB*	0.590-0.610	0.600	-	0.120
GPPS Black, FOB*	0.540-0.560	0.550	-	0.060
HIPS Natural, FOB*	0.750-0.790	0.770	-	0.110
HIPS Black, FOB*	0.640-0.660	0.650	-	0.025
ABS General Purpose Black **	0.750-0.770	0.760	-	-
<b>REGRIND/FLAKE</b>				
GPPS Clear, DEL **	0.190-0.210	0.200	-	-
GPPS MC, DEL **	0.130-0.150	0.140	-	-
HIPS White, DEL **	0.360-0.380	0.370	-0.010	-0.010
HIPS MC, DEL **	0.330-0.350	0.340	0.040	-0.010
ABS General Purpose MC **	0.460-0.500	0.480	-	-
*FOB east of Rockies				
**Delivered Midwest				

## Industry News and Graph of the Week

### US plastic scrap exports to China down 93% in Jan-Aug

US exports of plastic scrap to China in Jan-Aug totaled 34,660 metric tons, down by 444,747 mt or 93% from Jan-Aug 2017, the latest US Commerce Department data show. China, the top destination of these exports in 2017, imposed its *Operation Sword* scrap and trash import ban a year ago. Exports to Hong Kong, a major destination for exports bound for mainland China, totaled 80,227 mt in the first eight months of 2018, down by 227,220 mt or 74% from the 2017 period. China and Hong Kong together accounted for 66% of these exports in Jan-Aug 2017 and 14% in Jan-Aug 2018. US plastic scrap exports to all destinations in Jan-Aug 2018 totaled 811,420 mt—valued at \$334.1 million—down in volume by 33% from Jan-Aug 2017. The US government tracks five categories of plastic scrap exports and imports: PE, PS, PVC, PET and unsorted "other." The largest category by volume in Jan-Aug 2018 was PE at 298,237 mt, down by 36% from Jan-Aug 2017. For China, PE scrap exports totaled 10,559 mt in Jan-Aug 2018, down by 95% from Jan-Aug 2017. (See graph at right)

### US nonfuel use propylene supplies drop

US nonfuel use propylene inventories fell 92,000 barrels (-4.3%) to 2.038 million barrels for the week ended Oct 5, the EIA said this week. Propylene inventories have declined in four of the past twelve weeks, but one of those weekly draws was very large at 1.02 million barrels. As a result, inventories currently stand 25% below the 52-week average of 2.726 million barrels. Meanwhile, US Gulf refinery utilization was up 1.2 percentage points at 95.2%.

### Trucking freight rate update

Trucking shipping rates this week from Houston to the following locations were reported at: \$700 to Dallas, \$1,800 to Evansville, IN, \$1,800 to South Carolina (down from \$2,300 two weeks ago). build in the past twelve weeks. However, inventories are still 702,000 barrels lower over the past four weeks because of a 1.02 million barrel drop two weeks ago. There were reports that the sharp drop was largely the result of a change in the data set, rather than an actual inventory trend. Meanwhile, US Gulf refinery utilization was up 0.7 percentage point at 94% last week.

### India, Malaysia now top destinations of US PE scrap exports

US PE scrap exports went to 53 countries in the first eight months of 2018. Below is a list of destinations by volume and a comparison with the same period of 2017.

US PE Scrap Exports		
	in MT	
	Jan-Aug 2017	Jan-Aug 2018
World Total	469,006	298,237
China	203,091	10,559
Hong Kong	85,060	20,141
India	67,154	73,159
Vietnam	25,524	29,733
Malaysia	23,794	51,171
Canada	19,426	22,042
Indonesia	11,763	9,610
Taiwan	4,007	18,857
S Korea	2,805	5,764
Mexico	2,804	4,099
Ecuador	2,317	3,556
El Salvador	2,260	3,580
Thailand	1,840	29,955
Turkey	1,840	5,115
Romania	1,825	0
Singapore	1,824	133
Guatemala	1,321	1,653

Source: US Commerce Dept.

## NYLON

	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week Δ
<b>REPRO/PELLET</b>				
Nylon 6 de-lustered MC	0.390-0.410	0.400		0.060
Nylon 6 solution-dyed (SDN)	0.760-0.780	0.770		0.025
DEL East of Mississippi				
<b>SCRAP</b>				
Nylon 66 Natural Fiber Bales**	1.100-1.140	1.120	-	-
Nylon 6 Natural Fiber Bales*	0.460-0.480	0.470	-	-

\*FOB US South \*\*Ex-works US South.

US-produced prime nylon 66 for export was seen this week at \$2.00-2.27/lb, terms not disclosed, while nylon 66 post-industrial scrap and offgrade prices were up about 3 cpp across the board. Nylon 6 post-industrial fiber delustered yarn-on-tube (YOT) and nylon 6 PI fiber YOT bright and solution-dyed nylon were at 40 cpp and Nylon 66 PI fiber YOT was at 51 cpp, both steady from last week and delivered east of the Mississippi. Nylon 6 SDN repro and dull of the same were also unchanged at 77 cpp, and delivered east of the Mississippi.

## PVC

	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week Δ
<b>REGRIND/FLAKE</b>				
PVC PI MC, DEL Southeast	0.240-0.260	0.250	-	-

Post-industrial PVC regrind from profiles, windows and doors were done this week in the low 40s cpp while PVC pipe regrind was done at 25 cpp, delivered Southeast. Post-industrial flexible PVC regrind was seen in the mid-to-high 40s cpp delivered east of the Mississippi.

## DEALS

### HDPE

HDPE natural PCR, 73 cpp FOB Southeast  
 HDPE injection crate regrind, 36 cpp FOB Houston  
 HDPE frac melt regrind, 40 cpp delivered Southeast  
 HDPE BM offgrade, 52 cpp FOB Midwest

### LDPE

LDPE film repro, 35 cpp FOB US West  
 LDPE film repro, 30 cpp FOB US Gulf Coast

### PP

HoPP injection regrind, 36 cpp delivered Southeast  
 Dirty PP flower pots, 8 cpp delivered Midwest

### PS

Dirty HIPS pots, 12 cpp delivered Midwest  
 HIPS white scrap, 28 cpp delivered Midwest

### PET

Curbside PET bales, 60-65% yield, 15.5 cpp FOB Midwest  
 Clear rPET flake, 51 cpp delivered Southeast  
 Prime PET resin, 80 cpp delivered Midwest  
 Offgrade PET, 74 cpp delivered Southeast  
 Clear lump-n-chunk PET, 25 cpp delivered Southeast

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## US 2018 PET imports up 42% through Aug, valued at \$837 million

US imports of PET resin totaled 647,556 metric tons in Jan-Aug 2018, up by 192,404 mt or 42% from Jan-Aug 2017, the latest US Commerce Department data show. The 2018 imports were valued at \$837.2 million, up from \$487.5 million in Jan-Aug 2017. Imports surged from several countries, including Oman, Russian, Turkey, Malaysia, Thailand and China. They were down sharply from Brazil and Indonesia, both countries hit with US antidumping duties this past May. The top source of imports through Aug 2018 was Mexico at 223,777 mt, or 34.5% of the total, up by 32,074 mt or 17% from Jan-Aug 2017. Canada was the number two source of imports in the first eight months of 2018 at 66,673 mt, up by 17,417 mt or 35% from Jan-Aug 2017.

**BALES:** Curbside PET bales with a yield of 60-65% were up 0.5 cpp this week on strong demand from recyclers (reclaimers) in the Midwest and US South. Business was reported at 15.5-16.5 cpp FOB locations east of the Rockies. In California, Grade A PET bales were steady at 15-15.5 cpp FOB Long Beach and Oakland. Grade B PET bales in the Golden State from post-consumer sources were last reported at 8.25 cpp FOB Long Beach and Oakland.

**SCRAP:** Translucent strapping green PET chops were done this week at 15 cpp delivered Southeast. Back-flush PET purge from reclaimers was last seen at 3-4 cpp FOB US South.

**PRIME/OFFGRADE:** US-produced offgrade PET was done this week at 74 cpp delivered locations in the US South. PET resin was steady either side of 80 cpp FOB for non-contract truckload business. Railcars priced off of monthly contracts were last reported in the mid-70s cpp delivered Midwest.

**rPET FLAKE:** Clear fiber grade rPET flake imported from South America was lower with business reported at 47.5-50 cpp delivered Southeast and Midwest; last week's business was all done at 52 cpp. Clear rPET from preforms and product-destruction bottles—expired fresh-sale dates—was done at 51 cpp delivered Southeast. Post-consumer mixed colors rPET flake imported from Mexico was steady at 34 cpp while green PC packaging grade rPET flake imported from South America was done at 38 cpp delivered Southeast.

## Curbside PET Bales Forward Curve, FOB East of Rockies, \$/lb

Month	Price (\$/lb)
Oct-18	0.16000
Nov-18	0.15000
Dec-18	0.14500
Jan-19	0.14000
Feb-19	0.14000
Mar-19	0.14500
Apr-19	0.15000
May-19	0.15000
Jun-19	0.15500
Jul-19	0.16000
Aug-19	0.16000
Sep-19	0.15500

	RANGE \$/LB	MIDPOINT	1-Week Δ	4-Week Δ
<b>REPRO/PELLET</b>				
rPET FDA Clear, FOB US South	0.740-0.760	0.7500	-	-0.0100
Prime PET resin, US-produced, DEL Midwest	0.780-0.820	0.8000	-	-
<b>REGRIND/FLAKE, US import</b>				
rPET clear fiber, DEL East of Rockies	0.480-0.500	0.4900	-0.015	-0.015
rPET green fiber, DEL East of Rockies	0.370-0.390	0.3800	-	0.005
rPET clear packing, DEL East of Rockies	0.520-0.540	0.5300	-	-
rPET MC, DEL East of Rockies	0.330-0.350	0.3400	-	-
rPET non-FDA Green bottles, FOB US South	0.260-0.300	0.2800	-	-0.070
<b>SCRAP</b>				
PET MC curbside bales, FOB East Rockies	0.155-0.165	0.1600	0.0050	-0.0100
PET Grade A Bales, FOB SoCal	0.150-0.155	0.1525	-	-0.0275