

FOREIGN PRODUCERS'/EXPORTERS' QUESTIONNAIRE
SEBACIC ACID FROM CHINA

Return completed questionnaire to:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Office of Investigations, Room 615
500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436

So as to be received by the Commission by no later than October 21, 2004

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its five-year review concerning sebacic acid from China (inv. No. 731-TA-653 (Second Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII.

Name of firm _____
Address _____

World Wide Web address _____

Has your firm produced or exported sebacic acid (as defined in the instruction booklet) since January 1, 1998?

- NO** (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)
 YES (Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, sign the certification, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

By signing this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout this review in any other import-injury investigations or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise. (If you do not consent to such use, please note the certification accordingly.)

I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this review may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of this review or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name and Title of Authorized Official

Date

Signature of Authorized Official

(____) _____
Phone

(____) _____
Fax

E-mail address

PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS

The questions in this questionnaire 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 questionnaire is estimated to average 25 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-1a. Please report below the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

_____ hours _____ dollars

I-1b. We are interested in any comments you may have for improving this questionnaire in general or the clarity of specific questions. Please attach such comments to your response or send them to the above address.

I-2. Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see page 3 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.

I-3. Please provide the names and addresses of the **FIVE** largest U.S. importers of your firm's sebacic acid in 2003.

PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS--Continued

I-4. In Parts II and III of this questionnaire we request a copy of your company's business plan. Does your company or any related firm have a business plan or any internal documents that describe, discuss, or analyze expected future market conditions for sebacic acid?

- No Yes--Please provide the requested documents. If you are not providing the requested documents, please explain why not.

I-5. Does your firm or any related firm produce, have the capability to produce, or have any plans to produce sebacic acid in the United States or other countries?

- No Yes--Please name the firm(s) and country(ies) below and, if U.S. producer(s), ensure that they complete the Commission's producer questionnaire (contact Jai Motwane (+1-202-205-3176 or jai.motwane@usitc.gov) for copies of that questionnaire).

I-6. Does your firm or any related firm import or have any plans to import sebacic acid into the United States?

- No Yes--Please name the firm(s) below and ensure that they complete the Commission's importer questionnaire (contact Jai Motwane (+1-202-205-3176 or jai.motwane@usitc.gov) for copies of that questionnaire).

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION

Note.--For questions II-1, II-2, II-3, and II-4, please supply details as to the time, nature, and significance of any relevant changes in the character of your operations, and provide underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address the issues raised.

II-1. Has your firm experienced any plant openings, relocations, expansions, acquisitions, consolidations, closures, or prolonged shutdowns because of strikes or equipment failure; curtailment of production because of shortages of materials; or any other change in the character of your operations or organization relating to the production of sebacic acid since July 14, 1994 (the date on which the antidumping duty order under review became effective)?

No Yes--Supply the requested details and documentation (see note above).

II-2. Does your firm anticipate any changes in the character of your operations or organization (as noted above) relating to the production of sebacic acid in the future?

No Yes--Supply the requested details and documentation (see note above).

Include in your response a specific projection of your firm's capacity to produce sebacic acid (in 1,000 pounds) for 2004 and 2005.

II-3. Would your firm anticipate any changes in the character of your operations or organization (as noted above) relating to the production of sebacic acid in the future if the antidumping duty order on sebacic acid from China were to be revoked?

No Yes--Supply the requested details and documentation (see note above).

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-4. Does your firm have any plans to add, expand, curtail, or shut down production capacity and/or production of sebacic acid in China in the future?

- No Yes--Please describe those plans, including planned dates and capacity/production quantities involved, and the reason(s) for such change(s). If the plans are to add or expand capacity or production, list (in descending order of importance) the markets (countries) to which such additional capacity or production would be directed. Provide relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation that addresses this issue.

II-5. Describe the production technology used in the production of sebacic acid in China and identify major production inputs. Also discuss any significant changes in production technology since 1994 (the year the antidumping duty order(s) under review became effective). (Attach additional pages and diagrams, as necessary.)

II-6. Describe the name or grade designation of the sebacic acid products produced by your firm. For each name or grade, indicate product specifications and each product's percentage of total production and exports. (Where available, please attach product catalogues or price lists for your firm's sebacic acid.)

Name/Grade	Specification (purity, ash content, color (APHA), C ₁₀ content)	% of 2003 production	% of 2003 exports

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-7. Has your firm since 1994 produced, or does your firm anticipate producing in the future, other products on the same equipment and machinery used in the production of sebacic acid?

No Yes--List the following information and report your firm's combined production capacity and production of these products and sebacic acid in the periods indicated.

<u>Product</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Basis for allocation of capacity data</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

<i>(Quantity in 1,000 pounds)</i>						
Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
AVERAGE PRODUCTION CAPACITY						
PRODUCTION						

II-8. Please describe the constraint(s) that set the limit(s) on your production capacity.

II-9. What percentage of your firm's total sales in its most recent fiscal year was represented by sales of (1) sebacic acid and (2) derivatives of sebacic acid?

(1) _____ Percent (sebacic acid)
 (2) _____ Percent (derivatives of sebacic acid)

II-10. Is your firm able to switch production between sebacic acid and other products in response to a relative price change in the price of sebacic acid vis-a-vis the price of other products, using the same equipment and labor?

No Yes--Please identify below the other products, the approximate time and cost involved in switching, and the minimum relative price change required for your firm to switch production to or from sebacic acid.

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-11. Has your firm maintained any inventories of sebacic acid in the United States (not including inventories held by firms identified in questions I-3, I-5, or I-6 above¹) since 1998?

No Yes--Report the quantity (in 1,000 pounds) of such **end-of-period** inventories below.

<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

II-12. (a) Are your firm's exports of sebacic acid subject to tariff or non-tariff barriers to trade (for example, antidumping or countervailing duty findings or remedies, tariffs, quotas, or regulatory barriers) in any countries other than the United States?

No Yes--List the products(s), country(ies), the year each such barrier was imposed, and the type of barrier.

Product	Country	Year imposed	Barrier (if tariff, give rate)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(b) Are your firm's exports of sebacic acid subject to current investigations in any countries other than the United States that might result in tariff or non-tariff barriers to trade?

No Yes--List the products(s), country(ies), and type of investigation.

Product	Country	Type of investigation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

II-13. Identify export markets (other than the United States) that you have developed or where you have increased your sales of sebacic acid as a result of the U.S. antidumping duty order on sebacic acid from China. Please identify and discuss below.

¹ Such firms will report inventories in the Commission's importer or producer questionnaire.

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-14. Describe the significance of the existing antidumping duty order covering U.S. imports of sebacic acid from China in terms of its effect on your firm's production capacity, production, home market shipments, exports to the United States and other markets, and inventories. You may wish to compare your firm's operations before and after the imposition of the order.

II-15. Would your firm anticipate any changes in its production capacity, production, home market shipments, exports to the United States and other markets, or inventories relating to the production of sebacic acid in the future if the antidumping duty order on sebacic acid from China were to be revoked?

No Yes--Supply details as to the time, nature, and significance of such changes and provide underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, for any trends or projections you may provide.

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-16a. Please report production capacity, production, shipments, and inventories of sebacic acid produced by your firm in China in 1998-2003.

<i>(Quantity in 1,000, value in 1,000 U.S. dollars)</i>						
Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
AVERAGE PRODUCTION CAPACITY ¹ (<i>quantity</i>)						
BEGINNING-OF-PERIOD INVENTORIES (<i>quantity</i>)						
PRODUCTION ² (<i>quantity</i>)						
SHIPMENTS:						
Home market:						
Internal consumption/transfers (<i>quantity</i>)						
Commercial shipments:						
Quantity						
Value						
Exports to--						
United States: ³						
Quantity						
Value						
All other export markets:						
European Union: ⁴						
Quantity						
Value						
Asia: ⁵						
Quantity						
Value						
Other export markets: ⁶						
Quantity						
Value						
Subtotal, all other export markets:						
Quantity						
Value						
Total exports (<i>quantity</i>)						
Total shipments (<i>quantity</i>)						
END-OF-PERIOD INVENTORIES ⁷ (<i>quantity</i>)						

¹ The production capacity (see definitions in instructions booklet) reported is based on operating ____ hours per week, ____ weeks per year. Please describe the methodology used to calculate production capacity, and explain any changes in reported capacity (use additional pages as necessary).

² Please estimate the percentage of total production of sebacic acid in China accounted for by your firm's production in 2003: ____ Percent

³ Please estimate the percentage of total exports to the United States of sebacic acid from China accounted for by your firm's exports in 2003: ____ Percent

⁴ Identify principal *European Union* export markets. _____

⁵ Identify principal *Asian* export markets. _____

⁶ Identify principal *other* export markets. _____

⁷ **Reconciliation of data.**--Please note that the quantities reported above should reconcile as follows: beginning-of-period inventories, plus production, less total shipments, equals end-of-period inventories. Do the data reported reconcile?

Yes No--Please explain: _____

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-16b. Please report production capacity, production, shipments, and inventories of sebacic acid produced by your firm in China in January-June 2003 and January-June 2004.

<i>(Quantity in 1,000 pounds, value in 1,000 U.S. dollars)</i>		
Item	January-June 2003	January-June 2004
AVERAGE PRODUCTION CAPACITY <i>(quantity)</i>		
BEGINNING-OF-PERIOD INVENTORIES <i>(quantity)</i>		
PRODUCTION <i>(quantity)</i>		
SHIPMENTS:		
Home market:		
Internal consumption/transfers <i>(quantity)</i>		
Commercial shipments:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
Exports to--		
United States:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
All other export markets:		
European Union:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
Asia:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
Other export markets:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
Subtotal, all other export markets:		
<i>Quantity</i>		
<i>Value</i>		
Total exports <i>(quantity)</i>		
Total shipments <i>(quantity)</i>		
END-OF-PERIOD INVENTORIES ¹ <i>(quantity)</i>		
¹ Reconciliation of data. --Please note that the quantities reported above should reconcile as follows: beginning-of-period inventories, plus production, less total shipments, equals end-of-period inventories. Do the data reported reconcile? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No--Please explain: _____		

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS

III-1. Approximately what share of your firm's sales of sebacic acid to U.S. customers in 2003 were on a (1) long-term contract basis (multiple deliveries for more than 12 months), (2) short-term contract basis (multiple deliveries up to 12 months), and (3) spot sales basis (for a single delivery)?

Type of sale	Share of sales (percent)
Long-term contracts	
Short-term contracts	
Spot sales	

III-2. If you sell on a long-term contract basis, please answer the following questions with respect to provisions of a typical long-term contract.

(a) What is the average duration of a contract? _____

(b) Can prices be renegotiated during the contract period? _____

(c) Does the contract fix quantity, price, or both? _____

(d) Does the contract have a meet or release provision? _____

III-3. If you sell on a short-term contract basis, please answer the following questions with respect to provisions of a typical short-term contract.

(a) What is the average duration of a contract? _____

(b) Can prices be renegotiated during the contract period? _____

(c) Does the contract fix quantity, price, or both? _____

(d) Does the contract have a meet or release provision? _____

III-4. What is the average lead time between a U.S. customer's order and the date of delivery for your firm's sales of sebacic acid?

Source	Share of 2003 sales	Lead time
From inventory		
Produced to order		
Total	100%	

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-5. To what extent have changes in the prices of raw materials affected your firm's selling prices for sebacic acid during January 1998-June 2004? Also discuss any anticipated changes in your raw material costs in the future, identifying the time period(s) involved and the factor(s) that you believe would be responsible for such changes. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

III-6. Have any changes occurred in any other factors affecting supply (e.g., changes in availability or prices of energy or labor; transportation conditions; production capacity and/or methods of production; technology; export markets; or alternative production opportunities) that affected the availability of China-produced sebacic acid in the U.S. market since 1994?

No Yes--Please note the time period(s) of any such changes, the factors(s) involved, and the impact such changes had on your shipment volumes and prices.

III-7. (a) Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the availability of China-produced sebacic acid in the U.S. market in the future?

Increase No Change Decrease

(b) If you anticipate changes in supply, please identify the changes including the time period and the impact of such changes on shipment volumes and prices. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-8. Does your firm have any knowledge of and/or reason to believe that the sebacic acid that your firm exports to non-U.S. markets is being re-exported to the United States?

- No Yes--Please elaborate below.

III-9. Have any of your U.S. customers requested that their purchases of sebacic acid be shipped to countries other than the United States?

- No Yes--Please elaborate below.

III-10. Describe how easily your firm can shift its sales of sebacic acid between the U.S. market and alternative country markets. In your discussion, please describe any contracts, other sales arrangements, or other constraints (including any third-country trade barriers such as tariffs, quotas, or other non-tariff barriers) that would prevent or retard your firm from shifting sebacic acid between the U.S. and alternative country markets within a 12-month period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-11. Is the product range, product mix, or marketing of sebacic acid in your home market significantly different from the product range, product mix, or marketing of sebacic acid for export to the United States or to third-country markets? Have there been any significant changes in the product range, product mix, or marketing of sebacic acid in your home market, for export to the United States, or for export to third-country markets since 1994?

No Yes--Please describe and quantify if possible.

III-12. Please discuss any anticipated changes in terms of the product range, product mix, or marketing of sebacic acid in your home market, for export to the United States, or for export to third-country markets in the future, identifying the time period(s) involved and the factor(s) that you believe would be responsible for such changes. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-13. (a) Please list in order of importance any products that may be substituted for sebacic acid.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

(b) For each possible substitute product, please give examples of applications and end uses for which they are substitutes.

(c) Have changes in the prices of these products affected the price for sebacic acid?

No Yes--To what degree do changes in their prices affect the price for sebacic acid? Does this effect have a time lag? If so, how long is the time lag for each substitute product? Does this vary by type of sebacic acid or final end use?

III-14. Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be substituted for sebacic acid since 1994?

No Yes--Please explain.

III-15. Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the substitutability of other products for sebacic acid in the future?

No Yes--Please describe. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-16. Is the sebacic acid produced by your firm and sold in its home market interchangeable (i.e., can be used in the same applications) with your firm's sebacic acid sold to the United States and/or to third-country markets?

Yes No--Identify the market(s) and any differences in the products.

III-17. Describe the end uses of the sebacic acid that you manufacture and sell to your home market. If these end uses differ from those of the sebacic acid you sell to the U.S. market or to third-country markets, explain.

III-18. Have there been any changes in the end uses of sebacic acid since 1994?

No Yes--Please describe.

III-19. Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the end uses of sebacic acid in the future?

No Yes--Please describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-20. How has demand within your home market and the United States (and outside the United States, if known) for sebacic acid changed since 1994?

Increased Unchanged Decreased

Other (describe) _____

What were the principal factors affecting changes in demand?

III-21. Do you anticipate any future changes in sebacic acid demand in your home market and the United States and, if known, the rest of the world?

No Yes--Please describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

III-22. Please compare market prices of sebacic acid in your home market, the United States, and third-country markets, if known. Provide specific information as to time periods and regions for any price comparisons.

III-23. Describe briefly your home market for sebacic acid, including the number of, and competition between, producers.

PART III.--MARKET FACTORS--Continued

III-24. Do you face competition from imports of sebacic acid in your home market?

- No Yes--Please identify the country sources of any imports of sebacic acid into your home market.

III-25. Is your firm aware of any producers of sebacic acid outside the United States and China?

- No Yes--Please identify known firms and countries below.

III-26. Please provide as a separate attachment to this request any studies, surveys, etc. that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss sebacic acid supply (including production capacity and capacity utilization) and demand in (1) the United States, (2) each of the other major producing/consuming countries, including China, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data from 1994 to the present and forecasts for the future.

III-27. Does your firm sell sebacic acid over the internet?

- No Yes--Please describe, noting the estimated percentage of your firm's total sales of sebacic acid in 2003 accounted for by internet sales.
