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# READING THE ACT LABEL

**1****10**

A score of 1 = the lowest environmental impact. For consumables and chemicals, a score of 10 = the highest environmental impact. For equipment, sometimes energy and water consumption values exceed a score of 10. In these instances, the scoring follows the same principle - the higher the number, the higher the environmental impact.

The ACT label is most effective when comparing between products. Products with lower scores (in a specific category, or in total) have a lower environmental impact.

If a comparison is not possible, read below the label to find out more information about why a product received the score that it did.

And remember, the very fact that a company is willing to disclose the environmental impact of their products is a HUGE first step.

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## ANATOMY OF THE LABEL

**ACT.**  
The Environmental Impact Factor Label

**Product Name:**  
**Manufacturing Location:**

**Environmental Impact Scale**  
Decreasing Environmental Impact

**Manufacturing**

Manufacturing Impact Reduction	7.0
Renewable Energy Use	No
Responsible Chemical Management	10.0
Shipping Impact	7.0
Product Content	4.3
Packaging Content	5.7

**User Impact**


Energy Consumption (kWh/day)	6.0
Water Consumption (gallons/day)	11.0
Product Lifetime	2.0

**End of Life**

Packaging	8.5
Product	9.0

**Environmental Impact Factor** 53.5

**Label Valid Through** October 2020

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information about how the value was derived can be found by clicking on the link for each category

the sum total of all values equals the Environmental Impact Factor

the expiration date

green square values are graded on a scale of 1-10, with 1 indicating the least environmental impact and 10 indicating the highest environmental impact

this category is either yes or no

yellow square values represent actual daily consumption

a lower number indicates a lower environmental impact

## A CLOSER LOOK

**Environmental Impact Scale**

← Decreasing Environmental Impact →

<b>Manufacturing</b>	
Manufacturing Impact Reduction	<b>7.0</b>
Renewable Energy Use	<b>No</b>
Responsible Chemical Management	<b>10.0</b>
Shipping Impact	<b>7.0</b>
Product Content	<b>4.3</b>
Packaging Content	<b>5.7</b>
<b>User Impact</b>	
Energy Consumption (kWh/day)	<b>6.0</b>
Water Consumption (gallons/day)	<b>11.0</b>
Product Lifetime	<b>2.0</b>


The “product content” category refers to the use of responsibly sourced materials (e.g. recycled content, bio-based material, renewable material, etc.) in the product.

## TL;DR: WATCH THE VIDEO

# ACT.

How to read an ACT label



<b>ACT.</b>	
Accountability. Consistency. Transparency.	
The Environmental Impact Factor Label	
Product Name	
Manufacturing Location	
<b>Manufacturing</b>	
Manufacturing Impact Reduction	6
Renewable Energy Use	No
Responsible Chemical Management	10
Shipping Impact	7
Product Content	5.3
Packaging Content	5.4
<b>User Impact</b>	
Energy Consumption	5
Water Consumption	N/A
Lifetime Rating	2
<b>End of Life</b>	
Packaging	5.2
Product	8
<b>Environmental Impact Factor</b>	53.9
<b>Label Valid Through</b>	September 2019
My Green Lab  mygreenlab.org	
<small>**Energy and water consumption reported as daily values, all other values on a scale of 1-10. 1 is the best environmental impact and 10 is the worst.</small>	

## EXPLANATION OF THE LABEL CATEGORIES

### MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing practices and supply chain management can have a significant influence on a product's environmental impact. ACT includes audits of the [impact of manufacturing](#), an understanding of [chemical management](#) within the product and throughout the manufacturing process, the [impact of shipping](#) products, and an analysis of the raw materials and the sustainable material content of the [product](#) and its [packaging](#).

## USER IMPACT

Life science equipment often consumes [energy](#) and/or [water](#) when being used in the lab. ACT captures this usage information and displays it clearly, making it easy to make choices about equipment based on energy- and water-efficiency.

All laboratory products have a recommended shelf life. ACT evaluates the [longevity of life science products](#) as it relates to sustainability.

## END OF LIFE

The end of life of laboratory products does not have to be the landfill. This aspect of ACT captures opportunities for recycling, composting, and take-back programs for both the [product](#) and its [packaging](#).

# VOCABULARY

## DEFINITIONS

The ACT label references many industry terms. The [terms associated with the label](#) have been defined to ensure that all users understand the implications of the results.

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FIELD**

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regulations.

[My Green Lab](#)  
San Diego, CA 92109  
424.354.1494  
[info@mygreenlab.org](mailto:info@mygreenlab.org)



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