

## Process Notes for making PBAT Film using BioLogiQ's NuPlastiQ Resins

BioLogiQ's NuPlastiQ based film resins and Masterbatches can be used to make monolayer or co-ex film on most standard blown film equipment. This Process Note highlights key procedures and information that we use to make quality film.

### NuPlastiQ Masterbatch and Mixing Details

BioLogiQ's NuPlastiQ and PBAT blends may be supplied either as a masterbatch, or a fully diluted resin that is ready for direct processing.

If a fully diluted resin is supplied, no further down blending is required during film blowing.

If a masterbatch is supplied, it must be further down blended during the film blowing stage. The Masterbatch typically contains:

50%	BioLogiQ NuPlastiQ
50%	PBAT

This Masterbatch is then further down blended during film blowing as follows to arrive at the indicated final NuPlastiQ to PBAT ratios:

<u>Final Film Ratio</u>	<u>Masterbatch</u>	<u>Additional PBAT</u>
10% NuPlastiQ / 90% PBAT	20% MB	80% PBAT
20% NuPlastiQ / 80% PBAT	40% MB	60% PBAT
30% NuPlastiQ / 70% PBAT	60% MB	40% PBAT

#### Notes:

- 1) If a BLACK film is required, replace 5% of the base PBAT with 5% BLACK resin (eg. 80% -> 75% PBAT + 5% Black).
- 2) For concentrations of NuPlastiQ greater than 40%, please contact BioLogiQ directly for additional information and process suggestions.

### Machine Configuration & Setup

Most standard LDPE film blowing equipment can be used to blow film from resin containing NuPlastiQ and PBAT. BioLogiQ has successful direct experience with monolayer equipment that have the following characteristics:

Screw Diameter	55 – 80 mm (strong mixing elements preferred but not required)
L/D Ratio	38 – 45
Die Gap	1.0 mm – 1.2 mm
Die Diameter	130/150 mm – 300 mm
Typical Blow Up Ratio	2.5 – 2.8
Screen Packs	80/100/80 mesh
Chilled Air	Highly recommended

Extruder Degassing                      Not required

**Notes:**

- 1) Films made with NuPlastiQ are slightly more sensitive to process conditions (such as die gap and blow up ratio) than are traditional films. While we find a BUR of approx. 2.5 is optimum, the best ratio for your equipment can be determined by ensuring the MD and TD strengths are essentially equivalent.
- 2) Films containing NuPlastiQ respond to slip and antiblock additives similarly to other resins. However, they tend to bloom somewhat slower. We recommend measuring COF after at least 72 hours.
- 3) It is normal for our bio-based NuPlastiQ resin to outgas (smoke with a slight smell) during processing. This does not affect the final film quality or performance. Note: starch-based films will typically have a slight odor if starch is contained in the structure.

**Startup Procedure**

- 1) Clean or replace the Screen Packs before starting. NuPlastiQ based resins will act as a purge agent when introduced to the equipment, so gels and other defects might be experienced if the screen packs are not clean when NuPlastiQ is introduced.
- 2) Set the Extruder Process Temperature profile as follows (all temperatures °C):

<b>Zone</b>	<b>C1</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>C3</b>	<b>C4</b>	<b>C5</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>D1</b>	<b>D2</b>	<b>D3</b>	<b>D4</b>
Set Temperature	130	140	145	150	155	160	165	165	165	165

The recommended melt temperature range is between 150 and 155°C.

- 3) Start with 100% PBAT and establish a stable bubble.
- 4) Introduce the required blend of Masterbatch and Base Resin to the extruder to obtain a film with the desired NuPlastiQ content (eg for 30% NuPlastiQ – use 60% MB + 40% additional PBAT).
- 5) After the initial introduction of the resin blend, and during the transition, adjust the extruder RPM, the Line Speed, Take up Reel Speed, Winder Speed (and any other typical parameters) to obtain the bubble stability, width and film thickness desired.
- 6) Start and maintain the film winder as normal.
- 7) On shutdown, it is recommended to purge the film extruder with either 100% LDPE or 100% PBAT. Leaving any starch based resin (like NuPlastiQ) in the extruder during shutdown and startup may cause it to burn and delay normal startup on the next use.

**Resin Storage**

- 1) BioLogiQ resins (including Masterbatches) containing NuPlastiQ should be stored in a cool dry environment until ready for use.
- 2) Maintain the inner package seal until ready for use.
- 3) After use, and if useable resin remains, remove as much air as possible and re-seal the packaging. Resin should be used within 1 year of manufacture and/or within 6 months of first opening.

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4) If a good seal is not maintained, or the resin gathers moisture, drying may be required. Dry according to:

	<u>NuPlastiQ</u>	<u>NuPlastiQ Masterbatch</u>
Temperature	40°C	60°C
Time	8-12 hours	8-12 hours