

## **SOY-BASE INK**

Soybean oil, also known as vegetable oil is mainly used for human consumption. But, it can also be used in the manufacturing of printing inks. For the production of soy ink, the soybean oil does not need to be as refined. The soybean oil is blended with pigments, resins, and compounds to make ink. The volume for soybean oil in the ink varies between manufacturers and is dependent upon the application of the ink. Soybean ink is inedible because it contains the same pigments found in conventional petroleum-based inks. This and certain other chemicals make soy ink inedible and not 100% biodegradable.

## **SOY INKS ARE NOT 100% SOY**

A common misconception is that these inks are or near 100% soy content, when in fact there is a relatively small percentage of the ink formula that is actually soybean oil.

Soy inks are classified as such based on specifications set forth by the American Soybean Association (ASA). The ASA has established parameters for the printing inks based on their soy content:

- |                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| ✓ Newspaper Ink     | * 40% |
| ✓ Cold Set Ink      | * 30% |
| ✓ Business Form Ink | * 20% |
| ✓ Sheet-fed Ink     | * 20% |
| ✓ Web Heat-set Ink  | * 7%  |

## **ATLAS WAX-FREE/SOY-BASE INKS**

Printers do not need to specify Wax-Free or Soy-Base Ink when ordering Atlas Inks. All sheet-fed inks manufactured at Atlas Ink and Supply, LLC are 100% Wax-Free and are produced with 20 to 30 percent soy content.

