

Fig. 1 Silica gel packaged in polyethylene (plastic)

Calcium Chloride: Micro-Pak MPX2® Desiccants

Calcium chloride is most commonly produced synthetically from a reaction of hydrochloric acid on calcium carbonate, in a process that requires significant inputs of each material in addition to water and energy. Calcium chloride is extremely hygroscopic, with the capacity to absorb several times its weight in moisture, however when it does absorb moisture it turns from a powder into a highly corrosive liquid brine.

[Find more information on Micro-Pak MPX2® Desiccants](#)



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Bentonite Clay: Micro-Pak Dri Clay® Kraft

Bentonite clay is a naturally occurring mineral. The simple production process consists of extracting, drying and grading the minerals before packaging them. This process requires zero chemical inputs or additives, no water consumption, and uses minimal energy resulting in a small carbon footprint. In the case of Micro-Pak Dri Clay® Kraft, the bentonite clay we use is responsibly extracted at partner-owned mines and processed in partner-owned facilities, with a clear chain of custody from the mine to the end product. Once extraction is complete, the sites are restored and re-cultivated to an equal or better state than when operations began.

Bentonite clay remains dry at all times so it can be packaged in paper. Dri Clay® Kraft is packaged in plastic-free Kraft paper that is biodegradable and FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)-certified.

[Find more information on Micro-Pak Dri Clay® Kraft](#)



Fig. 3 Dri Clay Kraft. A 100% natural desiccant packaged in plastic-free, biodegradable Kraft paper.

The Environmental Impact of Using 100 Million 5-Gram Sachets of Each Desiccant

	Silica Gel	Calcium Chloride	Dri Clay® Kraft Bentonite Clay
Chemical Inputs (Metric Tonnes)	950	1,470	Zero
Fresh Water (Liters) used in production	10,000,000	90,000	Zero
Plastic Packaging	47 Metric Tonnes Equivalent to 2,350,000 one-litre plastic bottles	140 Metric Tonnes Equivalent to 7,000,000 one-litre plastic bottles	Zero Plastic-free packaging

Micro-Pak Dri Clay® Kraft is by far the most sustainable desiccant option as it is 100% natural, plastic-free and packaged in biodegradable Kraft paper.

For advice on desiccants please contact
Micro-Pak: info@micropakltd.com

Related Articles:

***For more information on the silica gel production process read the Dri Clay® Kraft vs Silica Gel Sustainability Summary**

Factors to Consider When Choosing a Desiccant? Find out the recommended applications for bentonite clay and calcium chloride desiccants

The Importance of Eliminating Silica Gel
Find out the risks involved with using silica gel