

ANALYSIS LABORATORY REPORT

RECEIVED FROM: E & R Laundry
565 Gold St.
Manchester, NH 03103

DATE: October 17, 2008
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REPORT NO: 622357
TAG NO: gray 857

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE: man's tan pants (Covington)

COMPLAINT: color loss

EXAMINATION OF ARTICLE: The fabric contains cotton. Examination shows extensive, but local discolorations on the legs at random.

FINDINGS: Tests show the local discoloration was caused by contact with an oxidizing agent.

EXPLANATION: The results of our testing indicate that an oxidizing agent has contacted the fabric in a localized area, causing permanent color loss. It is not possible for this laboratory to definitely determine when or under what circumstances this agent contacted the fabric. Commercial laundries often use oxidizing bleaches in laundering. If used in laundering, they are evenly distributed in the water and will not cause a local loss of color. Possible sources of contact in use or storage include home bleaches, spa and pool chemicals, kitchen and bath cleaners, scouring products and disinfectants, permanent wave and other hair care solutions, as well as some skin lotions, acne preparations and medicines.

In some cases, the color loss is not immediately visible because the original substance contains oils or some color of its own which masks the discoloration by producing a stain. When the stain or oxidizing residue is removed in washing, the color loss caused by contact with the substance becomes visible. Therefore, the discoloration may not be noticeable until after the launderer has processed the fabric.

CONCLUSION: The color loss is attributed to contact with an oxidizing agent under unknown conditions. Lack of evidence has limited our ability to assess responsibility for exact cause of dye damage at this time, but this is a phenomenon that is not normally associated with any known condition during immersion laundering.

Jim Kirby, Analyst, CPD, CPW
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tnw