

Asbestic is a name applied to impure very short fibre asbestos. It is used by plasterers, manufacturers of roofing, and also for a number of the purposes referred to above.

PREPARATION OF ASBESTOS.

In most cases in Canada asbestos is mined by open-cut methods. From the mine it is conveyed to the mill, where it is hand cobbled. The long fibre asbestos is separated as completely as possible, by hand, from the waste rock, and from that carrying the short fibre. The waste is discarded and the balance subjected to a complicated milling treatment in order to separate the fibre from the gangue. The first crushing is done by jaw crushers, and the final by cyclone or similar crushing devices. The fibre is removed partly by means of air currents and partly by screening out the finely powdered rock.

The asbestos is graded according to length of fibre. The market price varies greatly according to grade and the demand. The long fibre always commands a much higher price than the short.

Amount of asbestos used in the manufacturing industries, as reported by the consumers:—

Location	No. of firms reporting consumption	Domestic	Imported
		Tons	Tons
Maritime Provinces.....	1	11	—
Quebec.....	10	6536 $\frac{5}{10}$	—
Ontario.....	27	537 $\frac{3}{10}$	33 $\frac{5}{10}$
Prairie Provinces.....	3	251 $\frac{1}{10}$	—
British Columbia.....	1	100	—
Canada (Total).....	42	7435	33 $\frac{5}{10}$