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To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE
From: Technical Services
No: TAB-R-168

Dragon Tooth Slivers on Asphalt Shingles

What Is The Concern?

A commonly used term “**dragon tooth**” refers to the exposed portion of the top layer of laminated asphalt shingles. Dragon tooth slivers can be described as small, thin, long pieces of shingle that can be present on the ends of laminated shingles. (Fig. 1 & 2)



Figure 1



Figure 2

How Can It Affect My Roof?

It is important to remember... that dragon tooth slivers are a natural outcome of the manufacturing process used to produce these shingles. The end tooth on a shingle can vary from a full tooth to a sliver. Because some end teeth may be very narrow, it is possible for them to become dislodged from the end of a shingle.

- Dislodging of dragon tooth slivers does not affect the structural integrity or performance of the asphalt shingle roofing system.
- While a partially or fully dislodged dragon tooth sliver left in place on a roof can alter the aesthetics of the shingle, the backer strip component that is directly below a sliver assures that the useful weathering life of the shingle is not adversely affected.

What Should I Do If I Notice Any Of The Concerns Noted Above?

Before installation, always be sure to:

- Check the shingle to see if the shingle has a “dragon tooth” sliver.
- **Non-adhered/laminated** slivers should be carefully removed without causing damage prior to installing that shingle.
- **Do NOT pull adhered** “dragon tooth” slivers off of the shingle during or after installation of the shingle. Pulling these off may cause damage to the shingle or surrounding shingles.
- In the unlikely event of a larger tooth piece becoming dislodged, it can be re-adhered in place by adding a dab of ASTM D4586 (Type I or II) roofing cement to the underside and gently pressing back in place.

*How Does This
Affect My
Warranty?*

Dragon tooth slivers are not a manufacturing defect. **GAF's shingle limited warranty covers manufacturing defects of shingles only**, even if they are not installed properly. GAF's limited warranty does not warrant the workmanship of the roofer who installs the shingles, or any problems with the shingles caused by substrates or underlayments, or any other problems associated with the installation.

Questions?

GAF Technical Services Can Assist You... with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. Technical Support Services can be contacted at 800-766-3411. The GAF website is a great resource for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. Please visit www.gaf.com to find the latest information on our products and their installation.

Important: This document supersedes any prior GAF Technical Advisory Bulletins on this topic. Please always check www.gaf.com to make sure you have the most up to date information.