

GUIDELINES FOR THE TRIPLE RINSING AND DISPOSAL OF EMPTY HDPE AND PET PESTICIDE CONTAINERS, AND PESTICIDE AND TREATED SEED POLYPROPYLENE BAGS

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# **REGULATORY INFORMATION**



Only <u>triple rinsed and punctured</u> empty pesticide packaging, and pesticide and treated seed PP bags may be recovered, transported and recycled (except PET pesticide containers which cannot be recycled but must be incinerated after cleaning). Such triple rinsed packaging and bags are not classified as dangerous goods by the SA National Standard 10406:2014 Clause 3.1.6, but are classified as nominally empty packaging:

#### nominally empty packaging:

Previously certified packaging from which contents have been removed as far as possible, by means of the practices commonly employed to remove materials from that type of container, for example pouring, scraping, pumping, or aspirating

NOTE: Packaging containing residual material of division 6.1 (main or subsidiary hazard, in accordance with SANS 10228) is not deemed empty unless it has been triple-rinsed with an effective solvent, or has been cleaned by a method proved to achieve equivalent removal.

- Packaging and bags that are contaminated with pesticides are categorised as <u>hazardous</u> waste and <u>dangerous goods</u>, and must be treated as such, meaning transported <u>ONLY</u> according to <u>SANS10231</u> with vehicles <u>licensed</u> as dangerous goods vehicles, fitted with the required <u>dangerous goods placards</u> and driven by drivers that are <u>qualified and licensed</u> to drive such vehicles.
- Even if packaging or bags are triple rinsed, <u>re-using</u>, <u>selling</u> or <u>donating</u> them as packaging for any other purposes is unlawful.
- Empty packaging or bags may not be <u>buried</u> or <u>burned</u> on the farm; it is <u>criminal</u> offense in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) and a <u>terrible waste</u> of a valuable resource to burn or bury empty packaging or bags on the farm. Refer to SANS10206:2020 for verification of this.
- Farmers must insist on being issued with a <u>CropLife SA CoDi Intel Declaration</u> by the recycler every time they hand nominally empty packaging over to a CropLife SA certified recycler.

### IDENTIFICATION OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF PLASTIC (POLYMERS) USED FOR PESTICIDE PACKAGING







### **Identification triangles**

- i. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET or PETE) pesticide bottles are thin and firm (mostly 1 litre and RTUs)
- ii. High density polyethylene (HDPE) pesticide containers can be any colour and are general firm, but soft to the touch (different volumes)
- iii. Polypropylene (PP) pesticide bags and tubs, and treated seed bags can be any colour (bags crumble easily if left in the sun) (large variety of sizes)
- iv. Low density polyethylene (LDPE) bags are clear and usually used as lining in paper or PP bags for granular or powdery pesticides



Containers normally have the identification triangle embossed underneath the containers while bags normally have the identification triangle printed on the bag

VERY IMPORTANT KEEP ALL PET BOTTLES SEPARATE FROM HDPE CONTAINERS BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO BE INCINERATED!! REMOVE INSERTS AND SEALS FROM CAPS, AND REMOVE SPRAY HEADS FROM RTU SPRAY BOTTLES & STORE CAPS & SPRAY HEADS IN SEPARATE BAGS FOR RECYCLING





# TRIPLE RINSING PROTOCOL FOR HDPE AND PET

Triple-rinse your used pesticide containers! Spoel jou leë plaagdoderhouers drie keer!



Triple rinse your used pesticide containers

Tšokotša lebotlelo (Setswaro) le senago selo ga raro (3)

Triple rinse your used pesticide containers

Hlamba igogogo (okanye imbombozi) yakho kathathu

# TRIPLE RINSING PROTOCOL FOR POLYPROPYLENE (PP) AND LOW-DENSITY POLYETHYLENE (LDPE) PESTICIDE AND PP TREATED SEED BAGS



### **PESTICIDE PP AND LDPE BAGS**

- i. Turn the bag inside out
- ii. Shake it over the spray tank for 30 seconds
- iii. Rinse the bag with a jet of water for 30 seconds over the spray tank
- iv. Shake all rinse water off into the spray tank
- v. Repeat the spraying and shaking off 3 times
- vi. Remove all cotton stitching from the bag
- vii. Puncture the bag with a sharp object
- viii. Tie the rinsed bags into bundles
- ix. Dispose of the bags *via* a CropLife SA certified recycler



# TREATED SEED PP BAGS

- . Turn the bag inside out
- ii. Shake all visible particles off the bag onto the planting area
- iii. Rinse the bag with a jet of water for 30 seconds over the planting area
- iv. Shake all rinse water off onto the planting area
- v. Repeat the spraying and shaking off 3 times
- vi. Remove all cotton stitching from the bag

vii. Puncture the bag with a sharp object viii. Tie the rinsed bags into bundles

ix. Dispose of the bags *via* a CropLife SA certified recycler



### DISPOSING OF TRIPLE RINSED EMPTY PACKAGING AND SEED BAGS



Contact a CropLife South Africa certified recycler for disposal of triple rinsed empty packaging and seed bags. Find a recycler in the latest edition of the list of CropLife SA Certified Recyclers on the website: https://croplife.co.za/Collectors\_Recyclers

Arrange with the service provider to deliver the triple rinsed empty pesticide packaging and seed bags to their premises or to have it collected from the farm if they offer such services.

Insist on being issued with a CropLife South Africa CoDi Intel Declaration for the packaging and bags. It is a compliance requirement for farmers that are audited by certification agencies such as GlobalGAP and certain retailers.

Keep a record of all the CoDi Intel declarations as mentioned above for audit purposes.

Do not dispose of triple rinsed empty packaging and bags through recyclers that have not been certified by CropLife South Africa.

Triple rinsed empty packaging and bags MUST BE disposed of at least once every quarter. They may not be accumulated on the farm.

Store the caps separately in a plastic bag or drum to be collected by the recycler.



VERY IMPORTANT: Keep all PET bottles separate from HDPE containers. PET cannot be recycled and must be incinerated