



PEST CONTROL OPERATOR GUIDELINES



CLEANING AND DISPOSAL OF EMPTY PAPER AND CARDBOARD PESTICIDE PACKAGING

May 2023





REGULATORY INFORMATION



- Only **nominally** empty primary pesticide paper and cardboard packaging may be recovered, transported and recycled. Such packaging is not classified as dangerous goods by the SA National Standard 10406:2014 **Clause 3.1.6**, but is 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.

- Paper and cardboard pesticide packaging that is contaminated with pesticides is categorised as **hazardous** waste and **dangerous goods**, and must be treated as such, meaning transported **ONLY** according to **SANS10231** with vehicles **licensed** as dangerous goods vehicles, fitted with the required **dangerous goods placards** and driven by drivers that are **qualified and licensed** to drive such vehicles.
- Even if paper and cardboard pesticide packaging is thoroughly cleaned, **re-using**, **selling** or **donating** it as packaging for any other purposes is unlawful.
- Empty paper and cardboard pesticide packaging may not be **buried** or **burned**; it is a **criminal** offense in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) and a **terrible waste** of a valuable resource to bury empty paper and cardboard pesticide packaging or burn it. Refer to SANS10206:2020 for verification of this.

THERE ARE CROPLIFE SA CERTIFIED RECYCLERS THAT CATER ONLY FOR PEST CONTROL OPERATORS; USE THEM TO DISPOSE OF EMPTY PESTICIDE PACKAGING TO COMPLY WITH THE NEM:WASTE ACT

CLEANING PROTOCOL FOR PAPER AND CARDBOARD PRIMARY PESTICIDE PACKAGING

PAPER AND CARDBOARD USED AS PRIMARY PACKAGING FOR PESTICIDES

- i. When empty, shake the box or bag vigorously over the application area to get rid of all the particles
- ii. Turn the box or bag inside out and shake again
- iii. If any pesticide residue remains on the surface of the box or bag, decontaminate it by rinsing thoroughly with water over the application area or fallow soil in the garden
- iv. Dry the box or bag and dispose of in paper recycling bins
- v. Some of the CropLife SA certified recyclers marked **PCOs ONLY** may take decontaminated paper and cardboard packaging:
https://croplife.co.za/Collectors_Recycler
- vi. The recycler must complete the CoDi Intel Declaration and issue a copy to the PCO as proof of responsible disposal

