



# PEST CONTROL OPERATOR GUIDELINES



## TRIPLE RINSING AND DISPOSAL OF EMPTY GLASS PESTICIDE CONTAINERS

May 2023





# REGULATORY INFORMATION



- Only **triple rinsed** empty pesticide glass containers may be recovered, transported and recycled. The triple rinsed containers 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.**

- Glass containers that are contaminated with pesticides are 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 glass containers are triple rinsed, **re-using**, **selling** or **donating** them as containers for any other purposes is unlawful.
- Empty glass containers may not be **buried**; 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 glass containers. Refer to SANS10206:2020 for verification of this. It is also dangerous for people and animals if glass bottles break and leave cutting edge shards in the soil.

**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**



# THE TRIPLE RINSING PROTOCOL FOR SMALL GLASS PESTICIDE BOTTLES

- i. When empty, hold the bottle over the spray tank and drain for 30 seconds
- ii. Fill the bottle with one quarter of its volume clean water
- iii. Screw the cap back, shake for 30 seconds and decant the rinse water into the spray tank
- iv. Hold the bottle over the spray tank and drain for 30 seconds
- v. The rinse process described from ii-iv must be done three times consecutively
- vi. Rinse the cap thoroughly and dispose of with the triple rinsed bottle
- vii. The glass bottle may be disposed of in glass recycling bins or handed over to a CropLife SA Certified Recycler marked **PCOs ONLY**:  
[https://croplife.co.za/Collectors\\_Recyclers](https://croplife.co.za/Collectors_Recyclers)

The recycler must complete the CoDi Intel Declaration and issue a copy to the PCO as proof of responsible disposal

