



**GUIDELINES FOR THE CLEANING
AND DISPOSAL OF EMPTY
PAPER AND CARDBOARD
PESTICIDE PACKAGING**

JULY 2020





REGULATORY INFORMATION



- Only **nominally** empty 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.**
- 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 packaging is thoroughly cleaned, **re-using**, **selling** or **donating** them as packaging for any other purposes is unlawful.
- Empty packaging may not be **buried** or **burned** on the farm; it is **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 packaging on the farm or burn it. Refer to SANS10206:2020 for verification of this.
- Farmers and consumers must insist on being issued with a **CropLife SA CoDi Intel Declaration of adequate disposal** by the certified recycler every time they hand nominally empty packaging over to a CropLife SA approved recycler.

CLEANING PROTOCOL FOR PAPER AND CARDBOARD PESTICIDE PACKAGING

PAPER AND CARDBOARD USED AS MAIN PACKAGING FOR PESTICIDES

- i. When empty, shake the box or bag vigorously over the application area to get rid of all particles
- ii. Turn the box or bag inside out and shake again
- iii. Rinse the box or bag thoroughly with water and sprinkle this water over the application area
- iv. Dry the box or bag and dispose of in paper recycling bins

CARDBOARD SHIPPING CONTAINERS

- i. If the shipping containers are not contaminated, they can be recycled by paper recyclers
- ii. **Contaminated shipping containers must be sent to a licensed incinerator for incineration**