



**GUIDELINES FOR THE TRIPLE  
RINSING AND DISPOSAL OF  
EMPTY GLASS AND ALUMINIUM  
PESTICIDE CONTAINERS**

**JULY 2021**



# REGULATORY INFORMATION

- Only **triple rinsed** empty pesticide glass and aluminium 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.**
- 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 containers are triple rinsed, **re-using**, **selling** or **donating** them as containers for any other purposes is unlawful.
  - Empty containers may not be **buried** 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 containers on the farm. Refer to SANS10206:2020 for verification of this.
  - Farmers 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 service provider.



# THE TRIPLE RINSING PROTOCOL FOR GLASS AND ALUMINIUM PESTICIDE CONTAINERS

## Small GLASS BOTTLES used for home and garden pesticides

- 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. Replace the cap and shake for 30 seconds
- iv. Decant the rinse water into the spray tank
- v. Hold the bottle over the spray tank and drain for 30 seconds
- vi. Repeat step ii to v twice
- vii. Rinse the cap also thoroughly
- viii. The glass bottle may be disposed of in glass recycling bins

## ALUMINIUM CONTAINERS used for phosphides

- i. When the container has been emptied of all its contents, take the screw cap off and allow it to aerate for at least 24 hours
- ii. Submerge the container in a bucket filled with cold water and let it stand for 1 hour
- iii. Decant the water and dry the container out in the sun
- iv. Flatten the container to make it useless for other purposes
- v. Dispose of the container at a licensed metal recycler