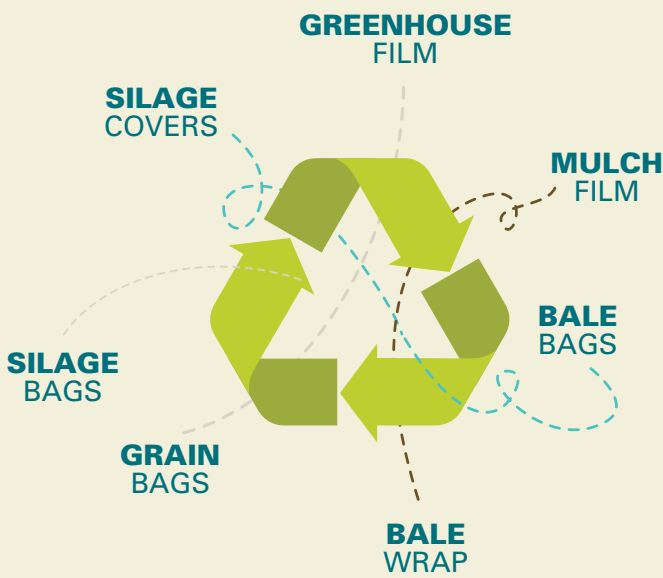


# AG PLASTIC FACTS

## Types of Agricultural Plastics

There are **two** main types of agricultural plastics commonly used in agriculture, *not including* pesticide and other rigid plastic containers.

## 1 POLYETHYLENE (PE) RESINS



### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH THESE PLASTICS?

#### Don't burn them! Why?

Although agricultural plastics burn easily, open burning usually does not reach high enough temperatures to prevent the release of toxic chemicals.

It's bad for you, your family, and your community.

- Burning plastics releases toxic and potentially cancer causing chemicals into the air.
- These toxic compounds can accumulate in the soil, plants and animals and contaminate food and feed crops, eventually making their way up to the food chain and into the food we eat.

- The smoke and ash can also irritate eyes and lungs, which is especially bad for people with asthma or heart disease.

- Disposal of agricultural plastics on farm either by burning or burying produces hazardous consequences to human and animal health, water and land resources and the environment.

**It's pollution.** Toxins released into the air during burning can fall on our soils and in our water.

**It's dangerous.** Burning garbage or brush can lead to wildfires, property damage and sometimes loss of life.

#### IT'S ILLEGAL!

Burning of plastics is prohibited debris under the **Substance Release Regulation (AR 124/93)** and therefore cannot be burned.

## 2 POLYPROPYLENE RESINS

- ▼ CORDAGE
- ▼ TWINE



### WHAT CAN YOU DO INSTEAD?

Many municipal landfills and transfer stations will only accept agricultural plastics if rolled and compacted to their requirements.

It is recommended that producers contact their local municipality for further info on requirements.

#### What else can you recycle?

Plastic, paper, cardboard and metal materials, used oil, tires, and beverage containers.



## GET READY TO RECYCLE:

**You must sort and separate agricultural plastics by resin type for recycling:**

- Used agricultural plastics must be as clean as possible for recycling, <10% contamination.
- Remove as much forage, soil, stones and other contaminants as possible before rolling or folding films and bags into bundles.
- Locate silage bags, bales and grain bags on higher ground or a concrete pad to reduce mud and manure contamination.
- Separate different products and types, keep cleaner film for example separate from dirtier.
- Bag twine to prevent tangling and in units < 1 cubic meter for ease of handling.
- Do not mix twine with any other materials.
- Twine must be dry.
- Films and wraps can be bagged or baled into 1000-1200 lb bales.
- Label each bag or bale with a permanent marker, type of material, date and contact phone number before delivering to the landfill or collection facility.
- Compaction is necessary for economical transport.



Call the **Recycle Info Line** at **1-800-463-6326** for local information.

**WWW.RECYCLINGHOTLINE.CA**

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