



Any sure way to recycle organic input containers off-farm

Posted by [Brittany Kordick](#)

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[Brittany Kordick](#)

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April 23, 2023 12:04AM

Registered: 4 years ago

Posts: 211

We already well past petalfall down South and well into our seasonal spray applications, many of which include manufactured products that come in plastic gallon and 2.5 gallon jugs. The stuff we're spraying is generally OMRI-listed and we reuse old containers all the time to haul water around for planting, etc. But we've never really known what to do with used containers, disposal-wise, besides make the best use of them we can around the farm, and after 15 years of orcharding, we've accumulated . . . a lot of plastic input containers. We've held onto them because we're sure that even if we put empty containers from things like Quantum Light beneficial bacteria or micronutrients into a plastic recycling bin they would be simply discarded at some point along the line because of labelling that might cause them inevitably to be lumped into the category of conventional pesticide or hazardous waste containers. Of course, there are all sorts of neat uses for empty, clean plastic containers (I've seen some very cool organizing drawer compartments made from them, insulation for walls, etc.), and we can do some of them, but at this point we just really need to purge our container pile and try to get some recycled if possible. I saw a reference in some sustainability certification standards to returning pesticide containers to the manufacturer if a program is in place, but that is the first I've heard of such a possibility, and the logistics of sending jugs back to manufacturers doesn't seem fun. Just curious if anyone knows if there is any sure way to recycle these plastic containers off-farm, or if most folks simply do what we do and try to make the best use of them they can, then send the rest to the landfill.

[Kordick Family Farm](#)

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[Carol Gudz](#)

[Re: Any sure way to recycle organic input containers off-farm](#)

June 12, 2023 05:01AM

Registered: 1 year ago

Posts: 21

Hi again Brittany,

Yes we too have lots of large (10 Litre) jugs leftover from soil amendments purchased. I use the jugs to multiply my EM. I also use them to warm up the spray water (fill the bottles and place them in the sun for a few hours). I donate some to my neighbour who raises pigs, sheep and chickens and needs jugs to haul water to the animals in their fields. My husband uses some empty bottles for used motor oil when he changes the oil on our vehicles. I agree with you though that I wish there was some way to recycle these containers in a "higher value" manner.

Another thought came to mind: offering them free online thru Kijiji?

Carol

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