



drumMUSTER Factsheet

What happens to drumMUSTER containers?

Before **drumMUSTER** began operations in 1999, landholders had few available options to dispose of their agricultural and veterinary chemical containers in ethical and environmentally sound ways.

Burying, burning, illegal dumping or sending drums to landfill were considered by many to be the only choices for managing farm waste.

But with a dramatic shift in attitude towards land management came a move towards product stewardship and more thoughtful disposal of recyclables and non-returnables.

Environmental pathway

When farmers and chemical users purchase products displaying the **drumMUSTER** logo, they're making a commitment to sound land management practices.

The logo indicates the user can deliver the empty, clean containers to one of 814 national collection sites free of charge, as they have already paid a four-cent levy per L/kg towards recycling of the container.

On delivery, containers are inspected to ensure they meet the cleanliness standard.

Collection agencies then take responsibility for the collected containers, which are stored in a dedicated, secure collection facility.

When a collection site is full, recycling processors retrieve the containers, which are either baled or chipped onsite then transported to a recycling depot for processing.

Processors place drumMUSTER containers through shredders, then the granules are washed and heated up to 250 degrees.

Once the plastic mass reaches molten stage, it is cooled, then heat extruded to make small granules, which are packed in bales ready for transport to a remanufacturing plant.

Recycled plastic remanufacturers create useful products such as wheelie bins, cable covers, public furniture, road markers, construction materials and garden equipment.

Chain of responsibility

Chemical users are required to clean the containers and deliver them to a collection site for recycling.

Collection agencies are required to inspect and store the accepted containers.

Recycling processors approved by drumMUSTER, who have provided end markets for collected products, remove the collected containers for reprocessing.

The preferred option is for the processed product to remain in Australia for remanufacture.

AgSafe

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