



Environmental Choice^M Program Panel Review Process

VERIFICATION AND LICENSING CRITERIA CCD-125

Product : Resin used in the manufacture of compost bags

Notice

Throughout this document, any reference to a standard or guideline means to its latest edition.

The Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP) reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this document.

Interpretation

1. In this set of requirements, please note the following definitions:

"biodegradable" means the resin used in the manufacture of compost bags degrades at least 80% by the end of a standard 45 day test period when tested in accordance with ASTM D6400, *Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics*, latest edition.

"controlled composting" means composting in accordance with ASTM D6400, *Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics*, latest edition.

"non-toxic" means the quality of compost derived from controlled composting of the resin used in the manufacture of composting bags exhibits equivalent terrestrial toxicity levels when compared to a reference compost derived from the composting of cellulose, in addition to the compost (inoculum) control, under the same controlled composting conditions.

"terrestrial toxicity" means toxicity levels determined by testing in accordance with OECD 208, *Terrestrial Plant Growth Test*.

General Requirements

2. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, *resin used in the manufacture of compost bags* must:
 - (a) meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards; and
 - (b) be manufactured and transported in such a manner that all steps of the process, including the disposal of waste products arising therefrom, will meet the requirements of all applicable governmental acts, by laws and regulations including, for facilities located in Canada, the *Fisheries Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)*.

Product Specific Requirements

3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, *resin used in the manufacture of compost bags* must:
 - (a) be biodegradable; and
 - (b) be non-toxic.
4. The *compost bags themselves* must display:
 - (a) an identification statement of the resin used, and
 - (b) the EcoLogo, in association with the brand name only, and not in association with the compost bag manufacturer's name.

Verification

5. To verify a claim that a product meets the criteria listed in this document, the ECP will require access, as is its normal practice, to relevant quality control and production records and the right of access to production facilities on an announced basis.
6. Compliance with requirement 3(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the licensee. The ECP shall be advised in writing immediately by the licensee of any noncompliance which may occur during the term of the license. On the occurrence of any noncompliance, the license may be suspended or terminated as stipulated in the license agreement.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

7. The EcoLogo may appear on wholesale or retail packaging, or on the product itself, provided that the product meets the requirements in this document.

8. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M* regarding the format and usage of the EcoLogo.
9. Any accompanying advertising must conform with the relevant requirements stipulated in this guideline, the license agreement and the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.