

CROP PROTECTION PRODUCT PACKAGING RECOVERY/DISPOSAL

The purpose of this document is to outline the approved method for the recovery and disposal of crop protection product packaging that would prevent, control, and mitigate the negative environmental impacts that could arise from activities related to the disposal of crop protection product packaging (pesticides containers.)

Current methods of disposal of pesticides packaging containers pose a risk of contaminating the environment. In consideration of the limited options currently available for the adequate recovery/disposal of these packaging containers, the Department is hereby approving the On-Farm-Incineration alternative.

The actions herein proposed have been made based on the best available information. Therefore, the Department of the Environment reserves the right to make modifications to this document as more information becomes available.

These actions aim at improving the management of pesticide packaging and focus primarily on single-trip packaging, a mixture of HDPE and PET bottles (5 gallon capacity and less) and paper sacks.

Pesticide packs are classified as **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** because of the physical and chemical properties of residues in the containers and the containers themselves.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

These guidelines are specific for single trip containers. Final Disposal is to be done by on-farm incineration.

A. DECONTAMINATION

1. The plastic containers shall be rinsed at least three times with water or the manufacturer's recommended solvent. Generally the amount of rinse water used is around 10% of the capacity of the container.
2. The resulting dilute solution of product is to be returned to the sprayer and applied to crops.
3. Rinsing is to be done either by a manual "triple rinse" or a machine-integrated rinse carried out by the tractor-borne spraying equipment.
4. Containers shall be drained at least 30 seconds into the spray tank to ensure there is a minimum amount of residues left in the container.

B. STORAGE

5. All rinsed and drained containers shall be stored on racks or hanged under adequately designed open sheds. These containers shall not come in direct contact with rain.
6. All rinsed containers must be labelled “USED PESTICIDES CONTAINER”

C. REUSE

7. Decontaminated containers must not be used for food or water for humans or animals, or in places where contact with food and water could occur.
8. To avoid dangers of labelling mix-ups and reactions between chemicals, it is important that pesticide containers are not filled with another pesticide.

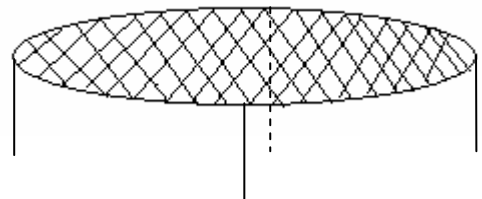
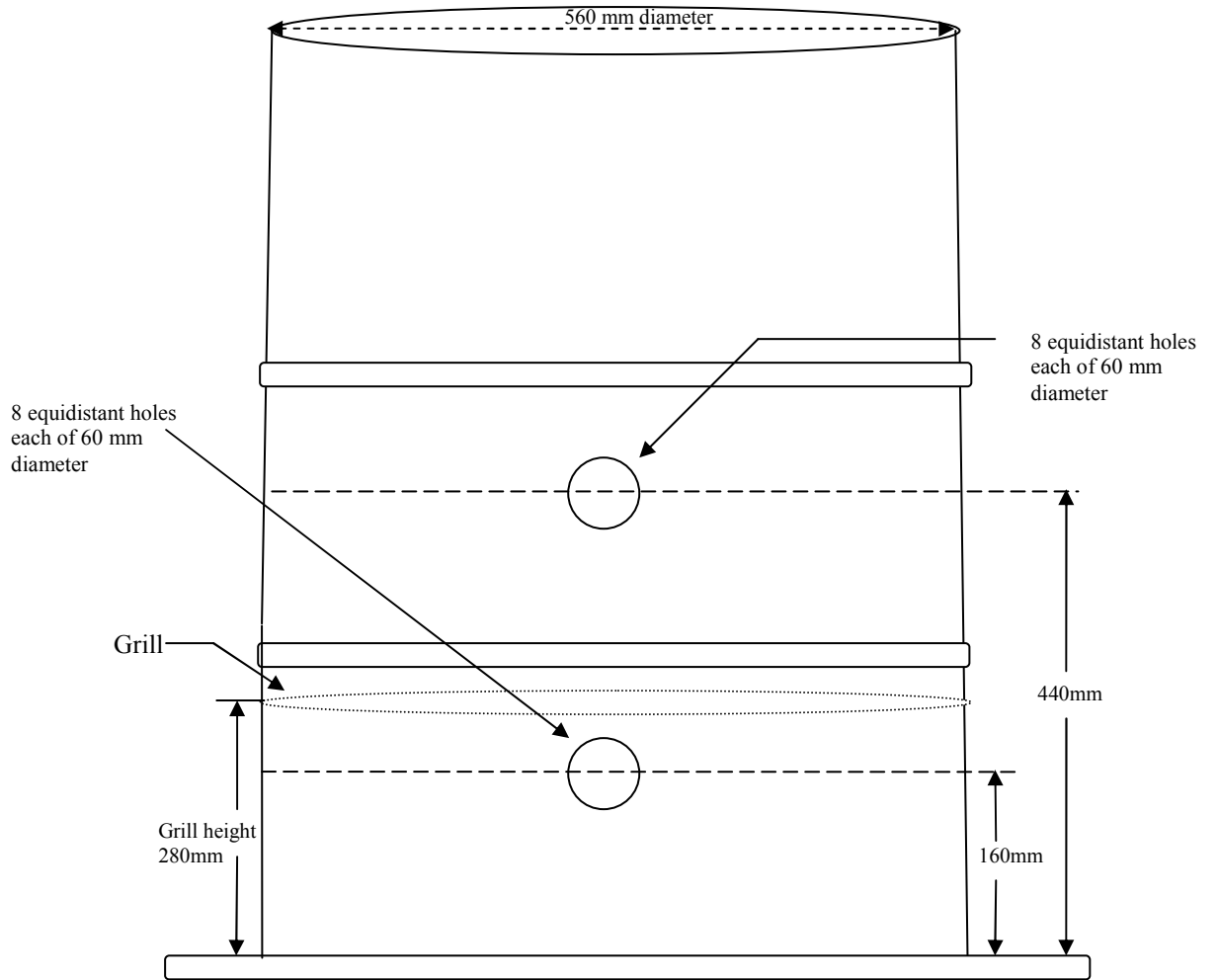
D. FINAL DISPOSAL

9. Final Disposal of crop protection product packaging of 5 gallon and less capacity HDPE and PET bottles as well as paper sacks shall be by means of on-farm incineration, which shall take place in small purposed-built incinerators.
10. The purpose-built incinerators shall be based on 55 gallon steel drums with a grid inserted between two sets of holes drilled to facilitate air flow. (See attached diagram.)
11. To initiate combustion, a kerosene-soaked rag or firelighter may be utilized.
12. Incineration should take place at least 100 feet from dwellings and any water body.
13. The incinerator shall be placed on a platform and located down-wind and away from any dwellings.
14. Final disposal of containers of one litre capacity or less can be disposed of by the above described manner (triple rinsed, drained and incinerated) or at an appropriate landfill site. Should the latter be the preferred option it should be added to household waste to assist biological degradation.

E. ASH DISPOSAL

Emissions from this waste management system (On-farm incineration) comprises air emissions from the incinerator and ash. The final disposal of ash should be in an appropriate landfill where it remains inert or stored in seal container(s) for disposal to be determine by the Department of the Environment.

PURPOSE-BUILT INCINERATOR



Grill of 1100 mm circumference and footings of 280mm