



Ag plastics recycling solutions for SK

May 2014

CleanFARMS[®]

A greener alternative to
agricultural waste management

Who is CleanFARMS?

Our mission

Enable environmental sustainability through effective stewardship of waste agricultural plastics and packaging.

Our vision

To be the leading Canadian stewardship organization for recycling agricultural plastics and packaging



37 members – manufacturers, developers, distributors of crop protection and fertilizer products



The Chemical Company



Dow AgroSciences



The miracles of science™



Harusco Orchards Ltd.



MONSANTO



A greener alternative to agricultural waste management

Our specialty: crop protection stewardship

Pesticide & seed bags



This program is offered in the Maritimes and select regions of southwestern Ontario and Quebec.

Obsolete pesticide & livestock medications



CleanFARMS collects and safely disposes of these obsolete or unwanted materials.

Container Recycling



Since the program began in 1989, more than 96 million empty containers have been collected.

Container recycling



Solid support system

- ~ **1,000 collection sites**
 - SK – 400 ag. retailers
 - AB – 110 municipalities
- **2013: 100th million container**
- **65% collection rate**
- **Levies:**
 - 1989: \$1.00 vs. 2014: \$0.49



Benefits of recycling

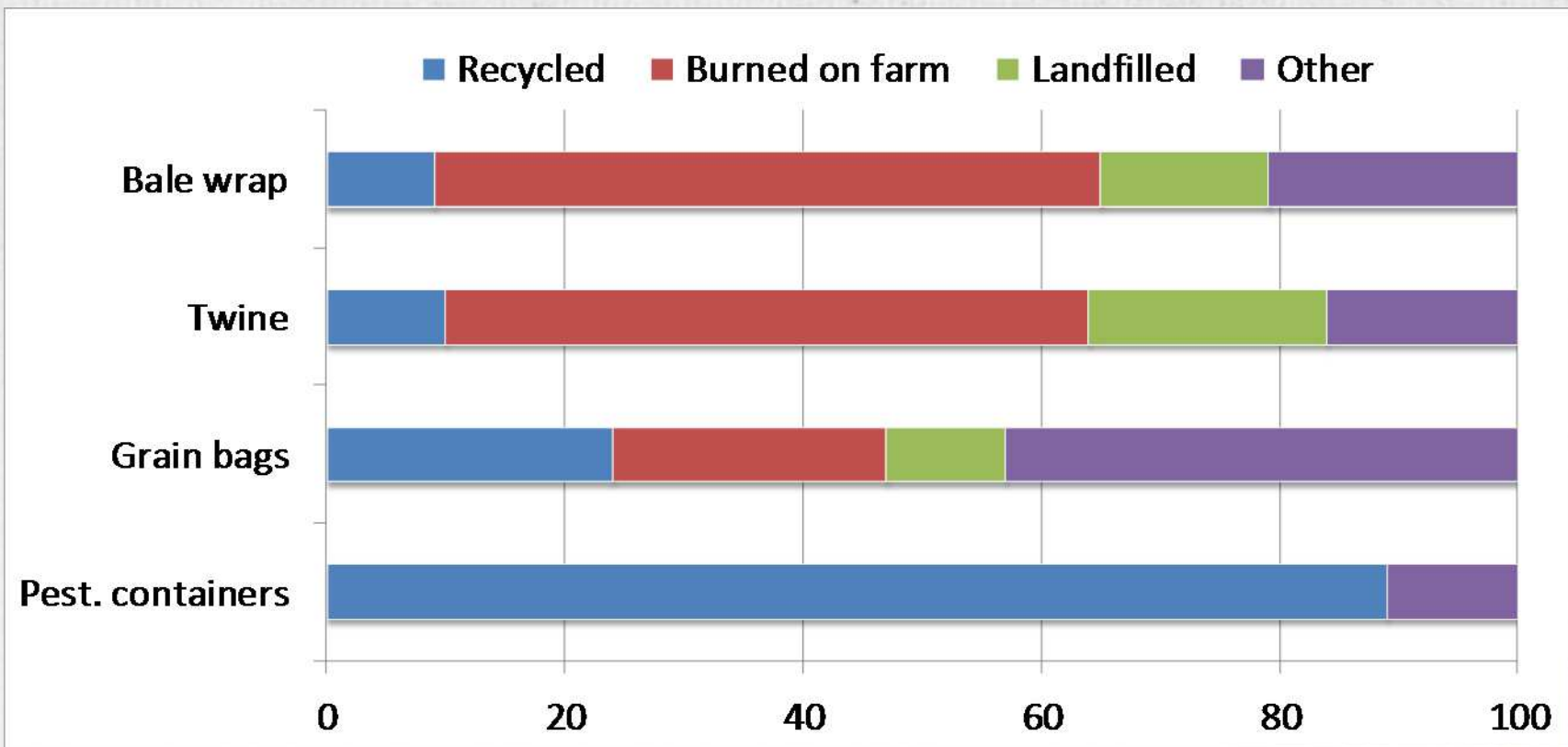
- **Reduce pollution – cleaner land, air and water**
- **Conserve landfill space**
- **Recycling vs. landfilling:**
 - **Job creation – 10 times more jobs**
- **Bring additional credibility to agriculture – across the entire value chain**

Farming technology is growing...end of life management needs to grow with it



SK: 2,900 – 3,600 tonnes of plastic grain bags, bale/silage wrap, twine and net wrap per year

How prairie farmers manage plastic ag waste?



What are others saying about ag plastics?

Plastic recycling costs may be passed on to farmers

Recycling plastic grain bags just got a whole lot easier

Farmers grapple with grain bag proliferation

Huge plastic bags a worry on Prairies

CBC News Posted: Mar 9, 2011 7:59 PM CST | Last Updated: Mar 9, 2011 8:26 PM CST  88

How do we tackle this?

Solving the puzzle together



Building a solid EPR program together



Saskatchewan Agricultural Stewardship Council

Plastic Agricultural Waste Recycling Program

- **Manufacturers & distributors of ag plastics**
- **Multi-stakeholder advisory group**
- **Deliverables:**
 - stakeholder engagement
 - develop a regulatory framework

SASC projects:

- 1. Waste characterization**
- 2. Understanding farmer attitudes & behaviours**
- 3. Collection and processing options**
- 4. Pilot programs by SASC members**

Waste characterization

- **2,900 – 3,600 tonnes of plastic grain bags, bale/silage wrap, twine and net wrap per year**
- **Usage likely to increase**

Understanding attitudes & behaviours

- **Ag plastics**
 - useful tools
 - hard to manage materials
 - different materials = different challenges
- **Different volumes of use = different attitudes**

Understanding attitudes & behaviours

- **There is interest in recycling**
- **Key concerns for recycling programs:**
 - **Cost**
 - **Convenience**
 - **Transparency**

Understanding attitudes & behaviours

- **Costs are ultimately passed on to the farmer**
 - impact collection options
 - practicality
- **Important to do the right thing**



Simply Ag: Saskatchewan case study

A greener alternative to
agricultural waste management