

# Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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Environmental Protection Division

Land Protection Branch

4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Lonice C. Barrett, Commissioner

Harold F. Reheis, Director

(404)362-2537

June 5, 1995

To: Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Owners and Operators

SUBJECT: Handling of Empty Pesticide Containers

The Environmental Protection Division is currently working with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, the Georgia Agribusiness Council, pesticide manufacturers, and Georgia's farmers to promote the safe recycling and disposal of empty pesticide containers. One concern expressed is the lack of disposal capacity for empty pesticide containers because many landfill owners and operators are reluctant to accept pesticide containers at their landfills.

The purpose of this letter to clarify the regulatory status of empty pesticide containers and to encourage you to accept them for proper recycling or disposal. The Georgia Department of Agriculture, working together with the United Agriproducts, has been promoting and successfully recycling empty plastic pesticide containers. This project has been extremely successful and recycled over 110,000 pesticide containers last year. We encourage every community to continue their work with the Department of Agriculture in expanding this successful program. However, there are still a large number of pesticide containers which cannot be successfully recycled at this time and, therefore, must be properly disposed of in a permitted landfill or other approved disposal facility. Attached is a list of the more common pesticide containers that are likely to be brought to municipal solid waste landfills in Georgia. If properly emptied, any of these pesticide containers may be legally disposed of in a permitted municipal solid waste landfill. Pesticide containers should be triple rinsed or, in the case of containers with dust or solids, shaken to ensure that all loose contents have been removed. If emptied in the above manner, the container is considered non-hazardous and would present little, if any, hazard when disposed in the landfill.

If you have concerns with disposal of empty pesticide containers, particularly if they are brought to your facility in large quantities, or if you feel the containers have not been properly emptied, please feel free to contact your EPD compliance officer. Obviously, if these containers are not recycled or accepted at properly permitted disposal facilities, it is likely that they will be improperly dumped or disposed of in a manner that could create a threat to human health or the environment. We appreciate your cooperation in working with Georgia's Agribusiness to properly manage such containers.

Sincerely,

John D. Taylor, Jr., Chief  
Land Protection Branch

JDT, Jr.:bc/pesticid.ltr

cc: Ron Conley  
Harold Reheis  
Gary Black  
Don Register  
Mel Kyle

bcc: Regional Managers  
Lewis Tinley  
Jim Dunbar

## COMMON AG PESTICIDES USED IN GEORGIA

Ambush  
Asana XL  
Atrazine 4L  
Balan EC  
Bladex 4L  
Basagran  
Baythroid 2  
Canopy  
Classic  
Cotoran 4L  
Di-syston  
Duel 8E  
Fusilade DX  
Gramuxone Extra  
Karate  
Karmex  
LASSO  
Lexone  
Lorsban 15G  
Microspense Wettable Sulfur  
MSMA 6 Plus  
Poast  
Pounce  
Princep 4L  
Prowl  
Roundup  
Scepter  
Sencor DF  
Sinbar  
Sonalan  
Starfire  
Temik  
Treflan (R)  
Zorial Rapid 80