

Marnco New Zealand

1. Bag Collection and Recycling Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines Marnco's approach to the collection of fertiliser bags across all serviced regions. It reflects the company's obligations under the **Waste Minimisation Act 2008**, including the 2020 declaration of **farm plastics (including fertiliser bags)** as a priority product requiring regulated product stewardship.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure responsible management of used fertiliser bags, reduce the risk of environmental harm, and prepare for full integration into an accredited recycling system once it becomes available.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all Marnco operations in New Zealand, including:

- Marnco Taranaki
- Kenrich – Invercargill
- Hiltons – Timaru
- Marnco Ashburton

It applies to all employees involved in the sale, distribution, and handling of bagged fertiliser products, and to the management of collection points.

3. Objectives

- Provide accessible collection points for customers to return used fertiliser bags.
- Ensure bags are managed responsibly, preventing landfill disposal, burning, or environmental loss.
- Prepare collected bags for diversion into a **verified recycling waste stream** as soon as suitable services become available.
- Track collection volumes and measure progress against the number of bags distributed.
- Collaborate with industry partners and Agrecovery to develop broad, sector-wide stewardship solutions.

4. Responsibilities

- **Site Managers:**
 - Oversee the setup, monitoring, and maintenance of bag collection bins.

- Communicate with the Plant and Distribution Manager to arrange timely collection.
- **Plant and Distribution Manager:**
 - Coordinate collection logistics across all sites.
 - Ensure bins do not overflow and create environmental hazards.
 - Communicate with the ESG Manager and waste providers to collect data on waste volumes.
 - Track how many bags are being filled and compare against the number entering the collection system.
- **Staff:**
 - Check bins daily.
 - Reject any non-compliant bags (bags containing debris, fertiliser, soil, or contaminants).
 - Educate customers on correct disposal procedures.
- **ESG Manager:**
 - Monitor compliance and prepare for integration into the national stewardship scheme.
 - Work with industry partners and Agrecovery to identify collaborative recycling arrangements.
- **Customers:**
 - Return only empty, debris-free bags in line with usage rules.

5. Procedures

1. **Collection Points:** Bins are located at each site where bagged fertiliser products are sold.
2. **Accepted Items:** Only fertiliser bags supplied by Marnco.
3. **Preparation of Bags:**
 - Bags must be fully emptied before arriving at site.
 - Bags must not be shaken out at the collection point.
 - Bags do not need to be washed, but must be free of contaminants that could endanger staff or recycling providers.

4. **Restricted Items:** General waste, non-Marnco packaging, contaminated bags, or hazardous materials are not accepted.

5. **Monitoring and Data Collection:**

- Staff log bin usage and reject contaminated bags.
- Plant and Distribution Manager consolidates data on returned bags and compares it to sales volumes.
- ESG Manager reports results annually and updates stakeholders.

6. **Collaboration and Future Integration:**

- While Marnco currently accepts only its own fertiliser bags, it will work with Agrecovery and industry partners to establish a framework for broader collection of all bulk fertiliser bags.

6. Compliance and Review

- This policy demonstrates Marnco's compliance with obligations under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and commitment to future product stewardship requirements.
- It will be reviewed annually, or earlier if new regulations or stewardship schemes require changes.