

Mater-Bi® Bioplastic



The Mater-Bi range of bioplastics contain renewable resources including corn starch and vegetable oils. Most items which are made from conventional plastics can be made from Mater-Bi, a material which has low environmental impact, is biodegradable and non-toxic to marine and terrestrial wildlife. Biodegradable loose fill, disposable cutlery, plant pots, mulch film and many other items are made from Mater-Bi. Possibly the most important use is for the collection and disposal of organic waste to composting using biodegradable bags made from Mater-Bi. Currently in Europe, approximately 5000 municipalities use Mater-Bi bags for the collection and disposal of organic waste. Mater-Bi has been tested and certified to the most demanding European standards for biodegradable and compostable plastics including EN13432.



MATER-BI COMPOSTING BAGS AND LINERS FOR THE SEPARATE COLLECTION OF FOOD AND YARD WASTE

Planet Ark estimates that Australians are throwing away 3.3 million tonnes of food each year-enough to fill Sydney Harbour three times. Most is disposed of to landfill, a complete waste of a very valuable resource. If that 3.3 million tonnes of discarded food was composted, a very valuable resource would be produced, enriching the soil and dramatically reducing the generation of the green house gas methane.

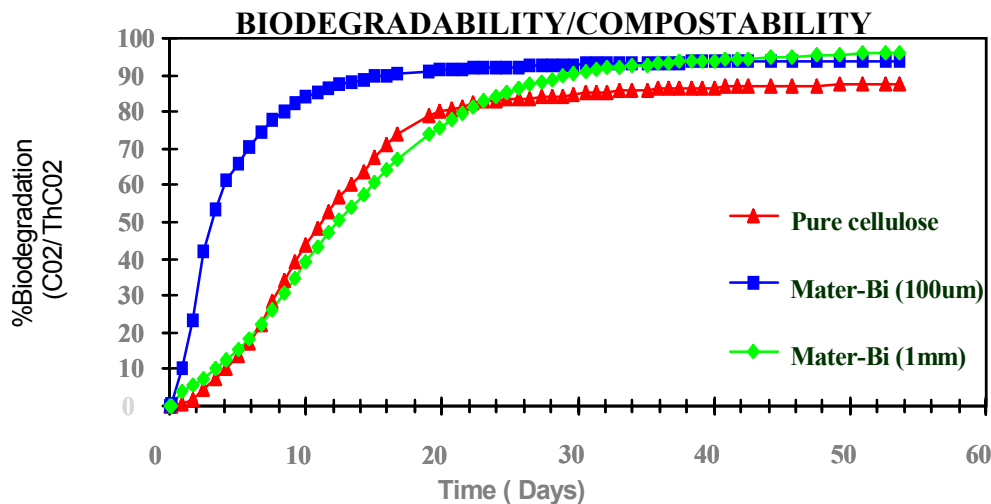


The use of Mater-Bi bags and bin liners makes the collection and disposal of the organic waste to composting much more efficient and easier for the following reasons.

Mater-Bi bags can be used as stand-alone or bin liners from small kitchen tidy bins up to 240 litre MGB and larger industrial bins.



1. The bag is biodegradable to the same extent and at the same rate as the food scraps.
2. A Mater-Bi bag breathes, helping to reduce the weight of the organic waste during storage and transport by up to 50%. Smaller or less trucks are required to transport the waste, less fuel is used and less waste is ultimately to be composted.
3. Because it breathes, the putrescible waste in a Mater-Bi bag does not develop strong odours as it does in the plastic bag.
4. As the bag biodegrades in composting, breaking down to CO₂, water and carbon biomass just the same as the food scraps, there is no contamination with plastic particles so the compost is of high quality.

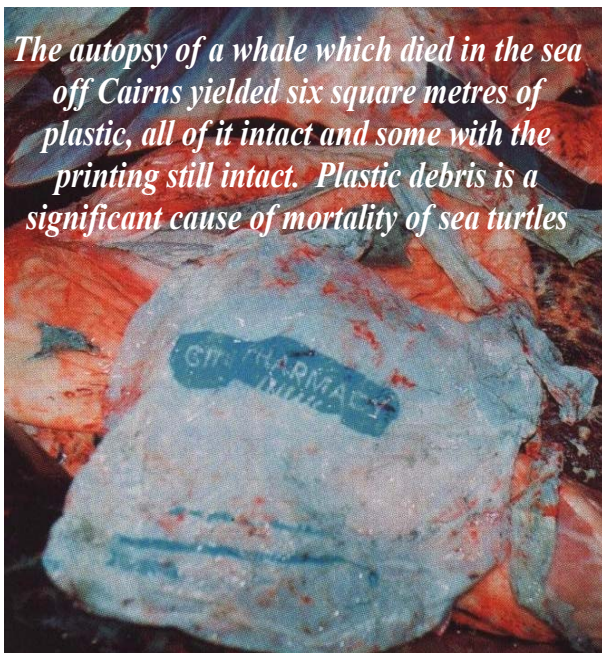


Biodegradable and compostable according to

- EN13432
- DIN 54900
- UNI17585

Compatible with any type of composting plant (from home composting to rotary fermenting reactor)

There is some dispute about how many per year, but there is no doubt that many marine mammals and sea turtles are killed by plastic debris. The UK-based Marine Conservation Society further estimates that up to one million seabirds are killed or injured each year by plastic debris.



A Mater-Bi bag will biodegrade in any environment which contains bacteria, whether a compost heap, the soil or the sea. Because it is heavier than water, a Mater-Bi bag will sink from the surface and biodegrade at the bottom of the sea, river or lake. It does not eliminate the hazard for marine wildlife, but significantly reduces it.

Mater-Bi biodegradable bags are made in Australia in all sizes from small bags suitable for packing frozen fishing bait right through large industrial bin liners. They can be made to virtually any size and thickness.

For information, please contact:
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