



# OXO-BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS ASSOCIATION

An Incorporated not-for-profit Association limited by Guarantee.

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## OPA RESPONDS TO EuPC CLAIMS ON RECYCLABILITY

Commenting on the claim by EuPC that oxo-biodegradable plastic is incompatible with recycling, the Oxo-biodegradable plastics Association issued the following interim statement today:

"We have received no reply to our letter to EuPC requesting a copy of their report on recyclability, nor on our offer to conduct recycling trials with their members. We never receive replies from EuPC so we doubt that they are genuinely interested in learning about oxo-biodegradable plastic.

We have however seen the extract of the report which they published, and our technical experts are considering it. When we receive their report we will publish our comments. It seems however that EuPC were testing mainly bio-based plastics, and their report confirms our view that bio-plastics cannot be recycled with oil-based plastics. We have not seen anything which invalidates the expert advice which we have received on oxo-biodegradable plastics – that they can be safely recycled during their useful life with ordinary oil-based plastics.

See <http://www.biodeg.org/files/uploaded/Recycling%20of%20Plastics.pdf>

If an oxo-biodegradable plastic was tested, the type of polyethylene is not specified, which makes the report meaningless in relation to oxo-bio. It is in any event ridiculous to suggest that adding 2% of oxo-bio plastic to ordinary plastic would create a visible difference in the new product, as there is no visible difference even in a 100% oxo-bio product. Moreover, 2% of oxo-bio plastic contains only .002% of prodegradant additive, which is too small to have any effect at all.