

Vision for a Total Ag Plastics Management Strategy

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Vision for a Total Ag Plastics Management Strategy

- Develop a sustainable recovery system for all agricultural plastics
- Removing post industrial products from the waste stream
- Giving agricultural producers responsible options
- Global issue

Vision for a Total Ag Plastics Management Strategy

- Lessons from the container recycling program to build an all Ag plastics recovery system
- View on line presentation

TPSA Stewardship Programs

- Waste Pesticide Programs
 - under funded-under served
- Container Recycling Program
 - under funded-under served
- Total Ag Plastics Collection
 - under funded-under served
- TPSA
 - under funded-under served

Stewardship Driver

- The driver in Ag Stewardship today is the food industry
- Food industry (distributors to consumers) is demanding total on farm stewardship and waste stream identification
- Food processing/handling stewardship
- The driver; deaths and illness from food borne pathogens

Total Ag Stewardship

- Currently the food supply industry is internalizing trying to produce information to the food broker/retail industry
- There are many stewardship programs available to producers and processors
- They are not complete in scope

Case Study

- EurpGap Case
- Apple packing plant website states they are certified, but the orchard operation burns containers, WPS violation

Stewardship Funding

- Getting an issue on a governmental policy person's or representative's radar screen to get it traction and moved forward is difficult and slow
- It took Brazil 5 years

Funding

- Get close to the manufacturing source
- Fewer pesticide container manufacturers than registrants and captures other ag containers
- Regulatory EPA (more than FIFRA), FDA, USDA, Farm Bill
- Imports of inputs

Vision for a Total Ag Plastics Management Strategy

- Administer Funding
- TPSA has the expertise to be a third party administrator
- Worldwide network



Successful Programs

- Include state departments of agriculture
 - Study by Rob Denny-evaluating and rating waste pesticide and container recycling program by state

“Every successful program is partnered with the state department of agriculture”, Rob Denny

Successful Programs

- Identify other agencies
 - Environmental quality agencies, air/water/solid waste
 - Associations/Commissions/Service organizations
 - Interesting that “environmental groups” have never partner/participate/sponsored Ag stewardship programs and they have been invited

Identification of Ag Waste Stream

- Documented by Lois Levitan, Recycling Ag Plastics Project, Cornell University
- Other presenters
- States with irrigation growing specialty crops
- Dairy states

Post Industrial Uses

- Documented by Lois Levitan, Recycling Ag Plastics Project, Cornell University
- Not as restrictive as the container recycling program
 - More options and opportunity to post industrial markets

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure

- Service
- Grants
- Administration
- Funding
- Stewardship
- Infrastructure

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure

Service to End-user

- Non-profit
- All comers
- More disclosure
- Profit
- Select customer

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure

Grants

- Non-profit
- Public sector likes to partner with non-profits
- Public grant with non-profit/profit partnerships work
- Profit
- Less opportunities
- Sole source justification is difficult

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure

Grants

- Grants good for startup and outreach
- Requires grant writer
- Grant administration
 - Requires on time reporting
 - Time consuming
- Difficult for capitalization
 - Not listed
 - Develop partnerships – long process

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure Outreach

- Non-profit
 - Decision making is slow
 - To win approval majority BOD has to grasp concepts
- Profit
 - More flexible
 - Fewer people in decision process

Non-profit Vs Profit Organizational Structure

Outreach

- Advertise only after operational foundation is established.
- In reality outreach and capitalization will occur simultaneously, count on delays

Time Sorters

If you hear the following terms you have a challenge, somebody is wasting your time – move on

We Support Stewardship (must have an action with results attached)

Liability – collecting and storing rinsed containers? Most used excuse!

Stewardship Funding

- Container Program in USA
- We support stewardship
- Volunteerism
- We can police our own industry
- These have turned into “the only way this will work is to through regulation”
- Models from other countries

Infrastructure

- Secure collection sites work best
- Public events produce smaller volumes
- Current container collectors are in the ag areas, some are working with some of the waste streams