



RIGK
**Reporter
Agri**

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The Path to Sustainable Agriculture – Progress in the Recycling of Agricultural Plastics with the Agricultural Systems of RIGK

Dear Sir or Madam,

With the imminent arrival of spring and the upcoming agricultural preparations for the harvest in sight, our efforts towards sustainable agriculture and responsible resource management are well underway. At the outset of the collection period of our agricultural systems, these efforts are now picking up pace. In this newsletter, we would like to present significant progress in the area of the return and recycling of agricultural plastics.

Recently, the **IK-initiative ERDE** has renewed its take-back commitment, setting clear goals for the collection and recycling of agricultural plastics. These precise objectives, supported by political and industrial representatives, underscore our ongoing commitment to a functioning circular economy. We are equally delighted to announce **ERDE Switzerland's impressive collection results for the year 2023**: Over 2,200 tons of agricultural plastics were taken back and recycled, while the collection point network continued to expand.

Furthermore, we would like to draw attention to the **Voluntary Code of Conduct for the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture**, currently being developed by the FAO. Initiatives like these are crucial for a more sustainable agriculture, and we are actively engaged in this with our agricultural sector take-back systems. These systems are already in full swing for the **2024 collection period, which includes ambitious targets**. The efforts of ERDE Recycling, PAMIRA®, VerenaA, or PRE, supported by numerous collection points and partners, are steadily bringing us closer to a sustainable circular economy in agriculture.

We are delighted by these developments, which highlight the increasing demand for sustainable recovery and utilization of packaging and plastics in the agricultural sector,

... because our actions now determine the world of tomorrow.

We hope you enjoy reading and have a wonderful Easter holiday!

Markus Dambeck

Chairman of the management, RIGK GmbH



Voluntary Commitment to the BMUV: IK Initiative ERDE Renews Its Take-Back Commitment

With the latest commitment from ERDE Recycling, the IK-initiative expands its efforts towards sustainable agriculture and sets clear goals for the collection and recycling of agricultural plastics. By 2026, over 60 per cent of the asparagus films marketed in Germany and by 2027, over 75 per cent of silo and stretch films are to be taken back and recycled. Additionally, specific recycling targets have been formulated for other agricultural plastics such as nets, yarns, and nonwovens. These clear objectives, supported by political and industrial representatives, emphasize the ongoing commitment to a functioning circular economy and demonstrate ERDE's dedicated action towards responsible resource management and the protection of our environment.

[Learn more >](#)



ERDE Switzerland Reports Strong Collection Results for 2023: Over 2,200 Tons

The take-back system for agricultural plastics in Switzerland concludes its second year with impressive results. The goal of keeping valuable resources in circulation and reducing CO2 emissions is being advanced. Last year, over 2,200 tons of agricultural plastics were taken back and recycled, while the collection point network continued to expand. The collaboration of all parties involved closes the material cycle and protects the environment.

[Learn more >](#)



"Voluntary Code of Conduct" for Sustainable Use of Plastics in Agriculture

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is developing a "Voluntary Code of Conduct" (VCoC) for the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture, aiming to provide guidelines and best practices to policymakers and stakeholders. RIGK is already actively engaged in the return and recycling of agricultural plastics through its take-back systems in the agricultural sector. Initiatives like these are crucial for a more sustainable agriculture.

[Learn more >](#)



Launch of RIGK Take-Back Systems in the Agricultural Sector for the 2024 Collection Period: Current Updates

RIGK's take-back systems are already in operation, taking back used packaging and plastics from the agricultural sector. With the ERDE initiative, which began the collection of crop plastics in February, and the VerenaA take-back system for agricultural Big Bags, which is also already active, efforts are in full swing. The PAMIRA®-SYSTEM started collecting packaging for plant protection products in March, and preparations for the PRE-SYSTEM for collections in November are already underway. The targets are ambitious, and for the main collection period in May 2024, each system will once again have numerous collection points and partners available. RIGK welcomes these developments and thanks all participants for their support on the path to a sustainable circular economy in the agricultural sector.

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Feedback

Kindly share your suggestions, ideas, or constructive feedback with us here.

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Our newsletter regularly informs you (approximately 4 times a year) about current agricultural topics.

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RIGK Reporter

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