



Harvest and Market the Crop

Handout 3

Agricultural Waste Management

Agricultural Waste Management

How do you dispose of agricultural waste?

There are very strict controls on the regulation of waste that farmers and the agricultural industry produce.

Due to the large amount of hazardous waste which farms produce, farmers and anyone involved in the industry must be aware of the correct ways to manage their farm waste. When dealing with hazardous waste, farmers must follow the health and safety regulations, including the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH).

The best way to ensure that your business is following the relevant regulations is to outsource an approved waste provider.

We can provide your farm with agricultural waste management solutions, in order to protect your business, your workers, the public and the environment from hazardous agricultural waste.

Agricultural Waste

What classes as agricultural waste?

The agricultural industry produces many types of different streams, all of which have their own methods of recycling or disposal. Some of these include:

- Green waste
- Waste silage
- Pesticide
- Biobed waste
- Waste oil
- Empty pesticide/chemical containers
- Waste sheep dip

- Waste medical containers/equipment
- Brake fluids
- Anything used on animals including syringes
- Fertiliser bags
- Unused animal medicines



Our team of qualified waste providers are experienced in handling all types of waste which the farm industry produces. Our professional team will ensure that your organisation is fully compliant with the relevant health and safety regulations for farm waste management, organise all your collections, and provide all the necessary bins and containers you require in order to safely store your waste until it is collected.

NOTE – If your hazardous waste is not disposed of appropriately, the effects can be devastating, not only for the public and the environment but for your business as there are strict laws in place which if not adhered to can result in fines and even jail sentences.

Farm Waste Management

We provide farms across the UK with agricultural waste management. Business Waste is committed to helping businesses across the country to cut waste collections costs while improving efficiency and helping the environment. Our specialist agricultural waste

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management solutions are uniquely tailored to suit each business we work with. We will ensure that your farm waste requirements are comprehensively met, every single time.

Our professional collection teams are located across the country, we can provide every business with efficient farm waste management no matter where the location is.

How is agricultural waste disposed of?

Disposal of agricultural waste, is, in many cases similar to regular waste disposal methods. As in, solid materials are often sent to landfills or incinerators. However, this can obviously have a negative effect on the planet – something which those who work within agriculture are likely to be particularly passionate about. In fact, the future of farming relies on taking care of the planet. Fortunately, there are other methods of agricultural waste disposal, such as composting and recycling which can be implemented to help protect the environment.

For example, organic fertilizers can be used again and again, and animal waste (faeces) can be used in composting. Both of which will allow agricultural land to thrive.

Why is agricultural waste a problem?

Waste is always a problem, and we each have a responsibility to ensure that we both minimise waste and find a way to ensure we properly dispose of any waste we do produce.

Agricultural waste poses a huge problem if not properly disposed of, as agricultural waste can have a distinctly negative impact on the environment. In addition to the dangers of landfills and incineration, the chemicals used in farming and agriculture can cause pollution if they end up in the wrong places. For example, pesticides that allow fields to flourish can cause mass levels of pollution in rivers and streams. Polluted water damages the eco-system and can lead to the death of animals and can also damage drinking water.

How do agricultural wastes harm the environment?

As mentioned previously, agricultural wastes impact the environment as they continue to add to the pollution of the planet. In addition to the potential dangers of

chemicals/pesticides, other agricultural waste can lead to environmental harm. For example, animal agriculture can also release harmful pollutants.

How do farmers get rid of waste?

There are numerous ways in which farmers can dispose of agricultural waste. In addition to organising regular waste collection (of both traditional and recyclable materials), many farmers chose to find ways of disposing of their waste themselves. This involves controlled fires – which needless to say, are less than ideal for the environment, or through adapting their policies to ensure products can be reused or composted.

How farmers can reduce food waste?

- 1) Try not to purchase more products than you need.
- 2) Identify the products which you do not use, or those that are often left over when you are no longer able to use them. Minimise the amount of these that you purchase or produce.
- 3) Take proper care of your plants/produce to avoid planting crops that will never be harvested/will be harvested poorly.
- 4) Consider investing in new technologies that can help manage crop growth.
- 5) Recycle where possible.
- 6) Introducing composting to your routine.
- 7) Consider selling surplus products in bulk at a decreased price instead of throwing it away.
- 8) Donate surplus products to charities such as food banks or homeless shelters, who will ensure the product does not go to waste.