

Pesticide Disposal Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How much does disposal cost?

The cost will vary depending on your location, the nature of the material and the quantities involved. Contractors sometimes offer discounts over their normal rates. By co-ordinating their efforts growers can ensure they make the best use of disposal companies collections visits and thus secure discounts over normal disposal rates.

What waste will the contractors take? Will they take treated seed, sheep dip, veterinary medicines?

Professional waste disposal contractors are able to remove almost any type of farm waste however you will need to let them know in advance details of the materials and quantities involved.

What happens if I use the product instead?

If the product is no longer approved for use in the UK then you run the risk of prosecution by the HSE. Illegal use of products may be detected by residue monitoring in food, soil and water. Illegal disposal by burial poses a serious threat to the environment and there is a high risk of detection through existing monitoring schemes.

What happens to the waste when it leaves my farm?

The waste will be taken to a licensed waste disposal or recycling site. In most instances old unwanted or unapproved pesticide products will be incinerated. Cleaned pesticide packaging may be recycled. All waste disposal/recycling sites are monitored by the EA and must comply with UK and EU standards for air quality and environmental protection.

I have some old rusty cans, which may be leaking...what should I do?

Take immediate steps to protect staff, soil and water from contamination. Place the container in a large sealed overdrum or other suitable packaging ensuring this is suitably labelled to identify the product. If practical transfer the material into an alternative labelled container.

My cans have no labels, what should I do?

Advise the waste disposal company. If necessary they will test the material to ensure that it is handled and disposed of correctly.

How do I know I am using a reputable waste disposal contractor?

All good waste disposal contractors should provide customers with a confirmation note listing the materials removed and the name and contact details of the waste disposal company. This is not a legal requirement but is best practice and provides evidence to others that you have taken the necessary steps for the professional removal of waste.

What about other sectors?

(E.g. Horticulture, Forestry, Amenity, Garden Centres)

Most waste disposal recycling companies will tend to service all sectors, prices will vary according to the quantities, materials involved and the distances travelled .

How do I check whether the products in my store require disposal?

Information on all approved products is available from the CRD website; agronomists and distributors can also access this list and may be able to help you check your store.