

RULES FOR REPORTING – CONTAINERS USED ON FARMS FOR PRODUCTION PURPOSES (QUEBEC ONLY)

At a glance

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jurisdiction(s) | Quebec | | |
| Reporting | | | |
| Frequency | Quarterly | | |
| Reporting start date | July 1, 2023 | | |
| Ecofee start date | January 1, 2026 | | |
| Relevant regulation(s) | | | |
| Quebec | Regulation respecting the recovery and reclamation of products by enterprises | | |
| Applicable programs | | | |
| Package | Yes | Applicable types | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Containers <input type="checkbox"/> Bags <input type="checkbox"/> Boxes |
| Obsolete content | No | | |
| Product | No | | |

Overarching principle:

Members are required to report and pay ecofees on all ‘containers used on farms for production purposes.’

Definitions:

For the purpose of this document, ‘containers used on farms for production purposes’ are containers used for the containment of products like disinfectants, detergents, deodorizers, sanitizers (applied to animals, plants and surfaces surrounding animals and plants), forage treatments, water treatment products (e.g. an acidifier), water softeners, feed acidifiers, amongst other products destined or intended for agricultural purposes.

‘Containers used on farms for production purposes’ form part of Section 53.0.8. (3) of Quebec’s *Regulation respecting the recovery and reclamation of products by enterprises*, however they exclude any containers used for the containment of commercial-class pesticides (including biologicals), fertilizers & biostimulants, seeds, inoculants and seed dyes & coatings¹.

The following table further identifies the types of ‘containers used on farms for production purposes’ that members are expected to report and remit ecofees on:

| What’s in | What’s out |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Containers supplied to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> farmers², including farms owned by cooperatives or integrated with feed mills, maple syrup farms, crop farms, horticultural farms (vegetal, ornamentals, cannabis) equestrian facilities “gentlemen farmers”³ third parties that provide services to farmers or where the container will be used in a farm setting. | Containers supplied to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed mills (for production purposes only) or within a member’s operation. Hardware stores (quincailleries) that are not intended for agricultural use Consumers (non-ag use or domestic use) Veterinarians where the product/packaging ‘ends at the vet.’ Golf courses, private gardens, professional landscaping, cities, towns, MRCs, municipalities, retail nurseries (aimed at the non-professional market) that do not produce plants |

¹ These types of containers are considered ‘crop input’ containers and form part of other Cleanfarms programs.

² For the purpose of this document, the term ‘farmer’ refers to a person or business who operates a commercial agricultural business.

³ Within the scope of the AgriRECUP recovery program, the term “gentlemen farmer” refers to an individual who manages a small farm to supplement revenues or for recreational purposes. This type of small size operation encompasses commercial stables, rabbit production, and other similar small size operations.

| What's in | What's out |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>All containers made from the following materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) • Polypropylene (PP) • Glass • Aerosols <p>Note - While containers made from the materials above are technically subject to the RRVPE, Cleanfarms is not collecting data nor charging ecofees on these containers at the present time.</p> |

Identifying reporting responsibilities

The Responsible Member is responsible for the reporting and remitting of ecofees starting as of the ecofee start date noted above:

- 1) The first seller into Quebec (as defined by the RRVPE) holds the regulatory obligation and is, by default, responsible for reporting and remitting of ecofees and becomes the Responsible Member.
- 2) In certain circumstances, the first seller may determine that an entity other than the first seller, and usually downstream along the distribution channel, should be the Responsible Member.
 - a) A written agreement must be in place between the first seller and the entity that is taking on reporting and remitting of ecofees on behalf of the first seller.
 - b) In this situation:
 - i) This entity becomes an Alternative Responsible Member for containers supplied by the first seller to the entity.
 - ii) The first seller becomes a Non-Reporting-First Seller-Member for containers supplied by the first seller to the entity.
 - c) In the event that an Alternative Responsible Member defaults on its responsibility to report and/or remit ecofees, reporting and remitting responsibilities will fall to the first seller as defined by the RRVPE.
 - d) Some members may assume the role of a Responsible or Alternative Responsible Member for some containers supplied and a Non-Reporting-First Seller-Member for other containers supplied.

Reporting Requirements

| Reporting period | Responsible or Alternative Responsible Member | Non-Reporting-First Seller-Member |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2025 <i>(No ecofees applied to the data provided)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size (e.g., L), number and weight (weight of the empty container) of each container supplied. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Null report |
| Jan 1, 2026 – Dec 31, 2026 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size (e.g., L), number and weight (weight of the empty container) of each container supplied. • List of brands supplied • List of Non-Reporting-First Sellers-Members affiliated with the Member • Copies of written agreements between the Member and Non-Reporting-First Seller-Members | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Null report • List of brands supplied • List of Alternative Responsible Members affiliated with the Member • Copies of written agreements between the Member and the Alternative Responsible Members |

*This is a regulatory requirement. Cleanfarms is required to maintain a registry of brand names supplied by its members and provide this list to the *Ministre de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs* annually.

Additional data requirements – drums and totes, deposit and non-deposit

The following information must be provided to facilitate the pickup of drums and totes and ensure these items are managed properly in accordance with Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Regulations:

- One-way drums and totes (required):
 - Product Name, Litre size, type of container (e.g., three-piece drum, caged tote, other) Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) sheet for each one-way drum and tote supplied.
- Deposit/returnable/multi-use containers (optional):
 - Product name, container size (L)
 - Contact information for pickup of deposit containers: Company name, Name, phone number, email address

Ecofees – 2026

| Size | 2026 ecofee (per kg) |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Small containers (23L and under) | \$2.78 |
| Bulk, one-trip drums & totes (over 23L) | \$3.29 |

The ecofee is applied to the weight of the empty containers.

2026 reporting schedule

| Reporting period | Reporting due date | Note |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| July 1, 2023 to Dec 31, 2025 | April 30, 2026 | No ecofees for this period. Reporting only. |
| Jan 1, 2026 to Mar 31, 2026 | April 30, 2026 | |
| April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026 | July 30, 2026 | |
| July 1, 2026 to Sept 30, 2026 | October 30, 2026 | |
| Oct 1, 2026 to Dec 31, 2026 | January 30, 2027 | |

Applicable taxes

- Ecofees are subject to the same applicable sales taxes that are applicable to the product the ecofees are applied to.

Disputes about product exclusions

With the development of any new program, there may be times when there are questions about whether or not a container is subject to Section 53.0.8 of The Regulation.

The intent of the RRVPE is to include all ag containers used in agriculture. Members are therefore required to report and remit ecofees on all 'containers used on farms for production purposes'. For greater clarity:

- By default, each and every 'container used on farms for production purposes' supplied into Quebec is subject to the RRVPE and members must submit ecofees on each and every 'container used on farms for production purposes.'
- In the event that a member feels that a 'container used on farms for production purposes' is not subject to the RRVPE, the member is responsible for
 - obtaining written confirmation from the *Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs* that the 'container used on farms for production purposes' is excluded from the RRVPE, and
 - submitting this documentation to Cleanfarms prior to the reporting due date for the reporting period in which the 'container used on farms for production purposes' has been supplied.

Adjustments

Members are permitted to make adjustments to previous reporting periods. Potential adjustments to previous reporting periods include:

- Product returns;
- Out of province purchases;
- Damaged 'containers used on farms for production purposes' are not eligible for an adjustment.
 - For the purpose of this document, damaged 'containers used on farms for production purposes' (e.g., 'containers used on farms for production purposes' that are damaged during transportation from a warehouse to a reseller or from the reseller to the end user) are products that are supplied into Quebec and damaged to an extent that they can not supply the product to an end user.
- Members must report and remit ecofees on damaged 'containers used on farms for production purposes.' Members can contact Asad Mahmood, mahmooda@cleanfarms.ca for more details.

Important notes for the future reporting periods

The [*Regulation respecting the recovery and reclamation of products by enterprises*](#) obligates enterprises to report data that allows Cleanfarms to measure and report on re-use. One way to measure re-use is to ask members to report data (but not pay ecofees) on the number of deposit containers or reusable containers they supply into the market.

This type of reporting is not presently required. However, in the future Cleanfarms members will be required to report data related to the use/re-use of deposit containers they supply into the market.