

## RULES FOR REPORTING –BAGS USED ON FARM FOR PRODUCTION PURPOSES (QUEBEC ONLY)

### At a glance

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

### Overarching principle:

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

### Definitions:

For the purpose of this document, ‘bags used on farms for production purposes’ are bags 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.

Bags used on farms for production purposes form part of Section 53.0.8. (2) of Quebec’s *Regulation respecting the recovery and reclamation of products by enterprises*, however they exclude any bags used for the containment of commercial-class pesticides (including biologicals), fertilizers & biostimulants, seeds, inoculants, feed, bedding/wood chips and peat moss and growing media<sup>1</sup>.

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

What’s in	What’s out
Bags supplied to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>farmers<sup>2</sup>, including farms owned by cooperatives or integrated with feed mills, maple syrup farms, crop farms, horticultural farms (vegetal, ornamentals, cannabis)</li> <li>equestrian facilities</li> <li>“gentlemen farmers”<sup>3</sup></li> <li>third parties that provide services to farmers or where the bag will be used in a farm setting.</li> </ul>	Bags supplied to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feed mills (for production purposes only) or within a member’s operation.</li> <li>Hardware stores (quincailleries) that are not intended for agricultural use</li> <li>Consumers (non-ag use or domestic use)</li> <li>Veterinarians where the product/packaging ‘ends at the vet.’</li> <li>Golf courses, private gardens, professional landscaping, cities, towns, MRCs, municipalities, retail nurseries (aimed at the non-professional market) that do not produce plants</li> </ul>

### Identifying reporting responsibilities

<sup>1</sup> These types of bags form part of other Cleanfarms programs.

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

<sup>3</sup> Within the scope of the AgriRECUP recovery program, the term “gentleman 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.

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 bags supplied by the first seller to the entity.
    - ii) The first seller becomes a Non-Reporting-First Seller-Member for bags 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 levies/ecofoes, 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 bags supplied and a Non-Reporting-First Seller-Member for other bags supplied.

### Reporting Requirements

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

\* 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.

## Ecofees

Size	Ecofee
≤ 1 kg	\$0.09
1 to 30 kg	\$0.31
31 to 500 kg	\$1.59
≥ 501 kg	\$3.18

## 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 'bag used on farms for production purposes' is subject to Section 53.0.8 of The Regulation.

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

- By default, each and every 'bag used on farms for production purposes' supplied into Quebec is subject to the RRVPE and members must submit ecofees on each and every bag.
- In the event that a member feels that a 'bag 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 'bag 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 bag 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 'bags used on farms for production purposes' are not eligible for an adjustment.
  - For the purpose of this document, damaged 'bags used on farms for production purposes' (e.g., 'bags 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 'bags used on farms for production purposes.' Members can contact Asad Mahmood, [mahmooda@cleanfarms.ca](mailto:mahmooda@cleanfarms.ca) for more details.