

General Notice

Impact of wood lids on HDPE or PP packaging

Some packaging manufacturers provide lids made of wood and plastic for HDPE or PP bottles and containers.

The presence of wood in plastic packaging significantly disrupts HDPE and PP packaging recycling given the equipment and techniques currently used in Europe.












SORTING AND RECYCLING POTENTIAL

HDPE and PP bottles and containers are included in the national sorting guidelines issued to the French population. In sorting centres, HDPE or PP packaging with a wood lid is channelled to HDPE or PP packaging recycling streams.

HDPE and PP recyclers will not be able to separate the wood from the plastic at the start of their process and the wood will lead to disruption in the recycling process and will affect the quality of the recycled plastic.

The table below shows the impact of wood lids at the HDPE and PP reprocessing plant.

Summary table of impacts during reprocessing

Recycling stage	Impact	Description	Consequences
 Tri sur emballages	∅		
 Prélavage	∅		
 Crushing		Abrasive to the grinder blades	→ Equipment wear
 Flotation		The crushed wood is not eliminated and remains in the HDPE and/or PP stream	Recycling stream pollution
 Lavage	∅		
 Tri sur palettes <small>optional</small>	∅		
 Granulation <small>(optional)</small>  Recycle		Presence of crushed wood: → Clogging of filters → Clogging of the die → Faults in appearance → Holes, etc.	Disruption of the process: → Increase in machine stoppages → Increase in filter changes Quality defect: → Loss of material, increase in waste to be processed

 : Caution

∅: No impact → **Environmental consequences**