**SOP: SAFE DISPOSAL OF EMPTY PESTICIDE CONTAINERS AND PACKETS**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this procedure is to describe the safe ways or practices when disposing empty pesticides containers and packets in the chemical store.

**SCOPE**

The procedure is applicable to all chemical handling facilities.

Pesticide packaging includes plastic and metal containers and paper packets with

aluminum foil lining.

Always put on appropriate PPE when disposing empty pesticide package.

**PROCEDURE:**

**Plastic and Metal containers**

1. Ensure all pesticide is completely emptied from the container.
2. Rinse the container three times **“TRIPLE RINSE”** with clean water.
3. **PUNCTURE** the container severally and crush the packet to ensure no possible re-use.
4. Store the empty containers in the chemical store or in a cage under lock and

key ready for collection by a 3rd party contractor.

1. The Authorized personnel at the chemical store and a Security staff MUST

be involved in the documentation of the wastes to be taken away from the

farm by the 3rd Party Contractor.

1. Submit all the stored containers to the authorized 3rd party Contractor for

disposal.

1. Once the wastes have been loaded on the Contractor’s vehicle it ceases to

be Farm Work’s waste and becomes the property of the Contractor.

**PROCEDURES FOR SAFE DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE PESTICIDES**

In the chemicals store, the principle of “First in – First Out” shall be well

understood and used when allocating chemicals for use to minimize incidents of

expired / obsolete chemicals.

The Chemical store supervisor shall bring to the attention of the Agronomist

/Production manager any chemicals due to expire in the next 6 months for

purposes of discussion with the growers on use and with suppliers on possible

returning for re-constitution: -

**Expired Pesticides Disposal**

Ensure all obsolete pesticide is stored separately from the other pesticides

still in use.

Notify the Agronomist on the said obsolete pesticides.

**The Agronomist in consultation with the concerned Senior Manager shall make**

**arrangements for the Disposal / Return to supplier of the obsolete pesticides as**

**follows:**

* The Senior Manager shall give approval (Written & signed) for the disposal

of the obsolete chemical.

* The Authorized personnel at the chemical store and a Security staff shall

be involved in the documentation of the obsolete pesticides to be taken away

from the farm by the 3rd Party Contractor

* The pesticides shall be taken by the authorized 3rd party Contractor for

disposal

* Once the obsolete pesticides have been loaded on the Contractor’s vehicle it

ceases to be Meru Greens Horticulture Farm waste and becomes the property of the Contractor.

**Return to supplier of absolute chemicals**

The Senior Manager shall give approval (Written & signed) for the disposal

of the obsolete chemical.

The obsolete pesticides shall be taken away by the supplier where possible.