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Phone: 630-620-1BOX (1269)

Fax: 630-889-1BOX (1269)

## **Environmental Statement Concerning Biodegradability and Compostability**

This statement is provided for the following products:

2805 WT      361 BC      323 BC      354 BC      531 OPV      542 OPV  
549 OPV      820 RC

Oxbox does not have any data for the above-mentioned products that will give hard figures on the biodegradability or compostability. However, applications where these coatings have degraded to the point in which they would be classified as inert and could not be detected in agricultural applications has occurred.

Biodegradability refers to the potential of a polymer or substance to degrade due to biological activity. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is defined as a chemical procedure for determining the oxidization rate of organic materials by biological organisms. Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) is defined as the procedure for determining the total amount of organic material that can be oxidized. BOD/COD ratios below 0.3 are considered non-biodegradable. Ratios above 0.5 usually mean that the materials are considered highly biodegradable. For most Base Products the BOD to COD ratio is greater than 0.5.

Compostability is different from Biodegradability. Composting is biodegradation within a specified timeframe, as a result of direct microbial interaction and/or their enzymes with various organic substrates like leaves, paper, wood or certain organic polymers. By the use of renewable resources, naturally occurring raw materials, to build coatings, these products are oxidative as well as hydrolytically degradable and are easily subjective to biological attack. Therefore, compostability depends largely on various factors like size, shape, thickness and the overall compostability of the substrate itself. It will also depend on the geographical situation and environmental conditions. Ultimately, the coating thickness should be kept at a minimum to achieve optimal degradation of the coatings.

For further questions concerning this matter or other products contact Oxbox.