

economic, safe and easy to use

The future is the Farmtainer

Modern farmers are producing high quality products within tight financial margins, under increasing pressure from customers and legislation from both national and European governments to adopt more environmentally friendly practices.



Single trip disposable packaging commonly used in farming is now recognised to be **uneconomical and potentially harmful to the environment**. In particular, high value crop protection products that may be spilt and wasted during dispensing into the sprayer, then followed by losses during rinsing and disposal of the packaging, are becoming more difficult and expensive to manage. There has to be a better packaging solution. One that is economic, safe, easy to use and makes the headache of hazardous waste disposal disappear.

One packaging solution increasingly demanded by farmers was introduced into the market in the mid 1990's. After German Re-unification the large farms in Eastern Germany required bigger packages and easier handling of greater amounts of crop protection products. Another challenge was the **reduction of waste and minimisation of cleaning activities**.

Therefore crop protection suppliers, together with the farmers, developed a system which has now evolved into becoming the **Farmtainer** (see Phase 4 photo) and which aims to fulfil all the **safety, financial and legislative requirements**.

Product stages

- **Phase 1.** Early versions used converted single trip containers and closed transfer systems. The early plastic drums had a tendency to be unstable and collapsed when empty.
- **Phase 2.** A more rigid plastic drum was used but was not completely successful.
- **Phase 3.** More recently, a heavy-duty blow-moulded drum was introduced. This version served all the farmer's needs, experienced great acceptance and is now commercially used in Germany. However, in the long term it has proven to be insufficiently robust to function as a multi trip container.
- **Phase 4.** Through customer feedback and further development, the latest multi trip package now consists of a polyurethane coated, stainless steel container, together with the internationally accepted **Drum Valve** closure system. This is the fourth phase and is known as the Farmtainer. It is currently being field tested in Germany alongside earlier versions and incorporates the benefits of being a closed system in that there is no direct contact with the product when using it .



Phase 1



Phase 2



Phase 3



Farmtainer Phase 4

Key benefits

The Farmtainer is a closed system. There is no direct contact with the product when using it and farmers are able to handle products safely.

- No contamination of water and environment is possible.
- It's economic, safe, robust and allows the chemical to be purchased in a more economical quantity whilst remaining easy to handle.
- It's extremely efficient: large amounts of product can be handled efficiently in a short time.
- No loss of product and no disposal costs: the re-collection and cleaning of the empty containers is achieved in cooperation with a logistic specialist.

Farmtainer unique features

Reports back from the market indicate that the Farmtainer is indeed economic, safe and easy to use. When combined with a closed transfer system it eliminates spillage, waste and exposure to the chemicals it contains. Using the transfer system illustrated, which includes a flowmeter, measurement of the exact dosage required for optimum effect is assured. It is also extremely efficient, as the time taken in loading the sprayer is reduced to a third of that required for traditional methods. This method has been shown to save enough time for at least 1 and often 2 extra loads to be applied each day it is used. The Farmtainer is safe, robust and allows the chemical to be purchased in a more economical quantity whilst remaining easy to handle.



The Farmtainer with Micro Matic Drum Valve, the dry-break Coupler and the flowmeter to measure the exact dosage required for optimum effect.

Once the Farmtainer is empty, it is collected and returned to the chemical manufacturer who will re-fill it with the same product. With the aid of a radio frequency transponder, which is fitted into the Farmtainer as standard, the chemical manufacturer can track each Farmtainer from the filling-point, onto the farm and back again. The transponder also stores valuable information, e.g. fill date, batch number, production, location, distribution details etc. and provides the chemical manufacturer with efficient logistics and control of these valuable assets.



The Farmtainer is the packaging solution for modern farming. To comply with the ever increasing environmental legislation, newer and safer practices must be adopted. With the reduction of product lost at mixing sites and elimination of the need for hazardous waste disposal, multi-trip packaging is the only way forward. The economical, safe and easy option is the **Farmtainer.**