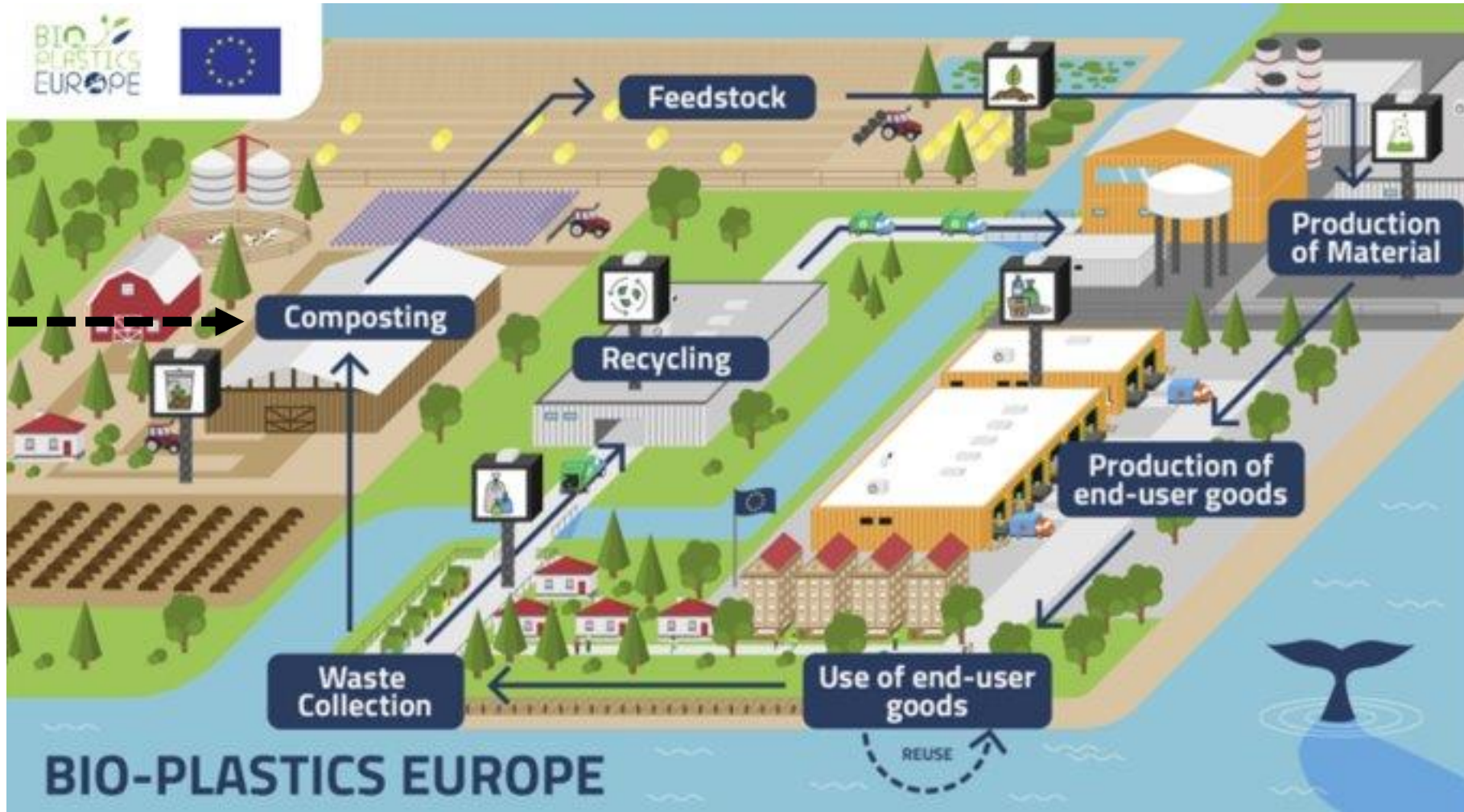


Biodegradable plastics in biogas plants

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Source: Bio-plastics Europe-project, web-page (No. 860407)





General

- Fruit stickers,
- tea bags,
- coffee capsules
- Fruit and vegetable bags
- Other carrier bags
- Other biodegradable packaging
- Cutlery and tableware
- Biowaste bags
- Big biowaste bags in waste management

 **Recyclability:** Materials should be compatible with biogas plant processes.

 **Quality variation in biowaste bags:** The properties of different materials significantly affect biowaste processing efficiency and biodegradability. Quality varies greatly.

 **Usability first:** A biowaste bag must be functional and user-friendly in its intended application.

 **End product quality starts with waste:** The quality of biowaste sorting is crucial.



Recommendations on biodegradability of plastics (recycling)

Image: Biodegradable plastic residues after anaerobic treatment (Photo: Akseli Railo)



Objective: Clarify legislation, improve biowaste recycling, prevent microplastic risks

📍 General principles:

- Products must be proven compostable (certification and clear labeling). New EN standards will be adopted in 2028. Until then, *OKCompostHOME* or *DIN+* certifications are recommended.

✅ Key recommendations (examples):

- **Biowaste bags:** Compostability mandatory from 2026; labeling and certification required.
- **Fruit stickers, tea bags, coffee capsules:** Compostable from 2028.
- **Fruit and vegetable bags:** Compostable by 2028 – preferably earlier.
- **Other carrier bags:** Thick “biodegradable” plastic bags banned from 2026.
- **Other biodegradable packaging:** To be recycled as plastic packaging waste; the term “biodegradable” must be clarified.
- **Cutlery and tableware:** To mixed waste from 2026 onwards.
- **Instructions for biowaste bags:** Only compostable bags recommended from 2026 onwards. No plastic bags.
- **Bulk bags in waste management:** Compliance with standards required by 2028.

📄 Further information:

- [D6.3 Biohajoavan muovin kierrätyksen lainsäädäntökehys 2025](#)
- [D6.5 Suositukset biomuovin biohajoavuudesta 2025](#)
- [D6.5 Recommendations on biodegradability of bioplastics 2025](#)



Recommendations for the Biodegradability of Bioplastic

PlastLIFE-project, report D6.5. Recommendations for biodegradability of bioplastic

Finnish Biocycle and Biogas Association (Suomen Biokierto ja Biokaasu ry)

2025



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Table of contents

Abstract.....	3
Tiivistelmä (in Finnish).....	4
1. Foreword.....	6
2. Introduction.....	7
2.1 Summary of background and criteria work for ensuring biodegradability of bioplastics in biogas plants.....	8
2.2 Summary of test results.....	9
2.3 Summary of legislative analysis.....	12
3. Recommendations for the Biodegradability of Bioplastic.....	14
Appendices.....	22
Appendix 1. Biodegradable plastic life cycle, research questions, claims, tools and testing (in Finnish) ...	22
Appendix 2. Testing results (in Finnish).....	23

Recommendation 4: Other carrier bags (non-fruit and vegetable)

- Do not place “biodegradable” plastic carrier bags on the market from 2026 onwards. This recommendation may be revised if significant advances in materials and recycling technologies are demonstrated.

Target group: Retailers, legislators.

Rationale:

The EU Packaging Regulation requires national decisions on the distribution and sale of compostable carrier bags after 2028. Thicker carrier bags are difficult to make truly compostable; therefore, it may be justified to decide not to market thick biodegradable carrier bags after 2028.

i Further information:

- [D6.5 Suositukset biomuovin biohajoavuudesta 2025](#)
- [D6.5 Recommendations on biodegradability of bioplastics 2025](#)



Thank you!

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