

1. What is bio-plastic?



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Bio-plastics consist of different types of renewable raw materials (selection):

- Blends of starch from maize or other crops (25 to 80 %) with plastic components
- Polylactide (PLA)
- Polyhydroxylalkanoate (PHA)
- Polybutylensussibat (PBS)
- Products of cellulose

2. What is allowed in compost?



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- DIN 13432: after 10 weeks of composting only max. 10% of the material in pieces more than 2 mm is allowed in compost;
- The quality of the compost is specified in the German regulations, 0.1% dry weight is allowed. The special quality system of the German association BGK allows only 15 cm² of all impurities;
- The composting time in industrial composting plants in Germany varies between 4 and 8 weeks, so the time is not sufficient.

3. Examples of impurities



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After fermentation or composting

- Small organic waste impurities
- Glass
- Coffee capsules or coffee pads with plastic pieces
- Toothbrushes, plastic bottles
- Flowerpots
- Different packaging material (nets, bags, medicine blisters)



4. Examples of small impurities



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After the biological treatment:

- Small pieces of impurities in the fine compost

0.05 % / 0.5 cm²

0.5 % / 3.8 cm²

0.05 % / 13.5 cm²



5. Tests on usable bio-plastics



Coffee-to-go cups after fermentation



Catering dishes after fermentation and composting



6. Tests on biodegradable plastics



Compostable coffee capsules



after fermentation and composting



7. Collection of organic waste in households



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- No packaging material in composting systems!
- Collect organic waste in the kitchen using paper bags -- „Hamburg Bio-bag“

