## **Greenhouse Recycling Procedures**

Richard E. Bonnet, President Plastic Recycling Services, Inc.

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In order to facilitate recycling of greenhouse plastic, the following procedures have been established. As in any business, it is very important to be both productive and efficient in loading and unloading, sorting and processing. The more it costs to process, the less is available to pay for raw material or the less profit is made. By following these

procedures, you can realize more from your waste stream, and I can stay in business.

1. All material should be separated by plastic type. Generally, all flats, paks,

and plug trays are polystyrene. Greenhouse pots and open web flats are polypropylene and nursery pots are polyethylene.

profit is made.

2. All material should be stacked on a decent pallet and strapped down or shrink wrapped. With uniform material like plug trays, you can stack seven and a half feet (7 1/2) high. If mixed material can't be stacked that high, stack four (4) feet so pallets can be double-stacked in the truck.

3. Miscellaneous material like odd size paks, labels or carry flats should be boxed and loaded to ride. A good container is a GAYLORD box. This is a 4x4x4 box used for shipping plastic. Most recyclers can get them.

4. Due to freight costs, we are buying truckload lots and

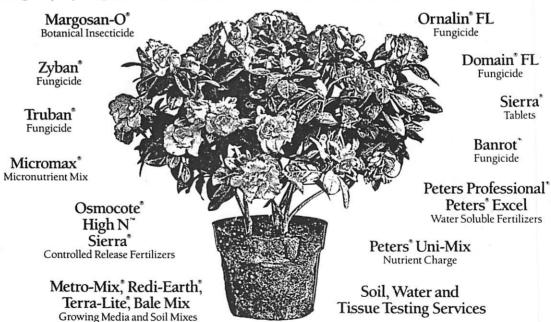
paying the freight. Contact PRS with your material, and we will co-ordinate your load with others if less than a truckload.

5. It is not necessary to clean material except to knock out the worst of the potting soil. It is impor-

tant to understand that we do not pay for the potting soil. Our experience has been 10-15% by weight is potting soil.

6. At this time, we are allowing ?? per pound for the plastic we process plus the freight. This assumes 20,000 lbs./ truck and less than 500 miles trucking. We will haul less and go farther, but then there is less available for material. Cost avoidance will be your primary concern.

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growing. Contact your Grace-Sierra distributor or call 1-800-492-8255.

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