



OXO-BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS ASSOCIATION

20 Hanover Square, London W1S 1JY, England
+44203-1786070 www.biodeg.org



LEADING ENVIRONMENTALIST BACKS DEGRADABLE PLASTICS

One of Britain's top environmental broadcasters has joined the Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association (www.biodeg.org) as its Environmental Adviser.

Chris Packham, environmental broadcaster, photographer, and journalist for the BBC, where he presents the series 'Spring Watch' and 'Autumn Watch', will be working alongside the Association's international scientific team, which includes Professor Gerald Scott, one of the world's leading experts on the degradability of plastics.



Chris Packham said "I have been concerned for some time about the effect on the environment of plastic waste which does not get collected but instead blows or floats around in the open environment for decades. Of course we must educate people to recycle their waste, but we will never collect it all. Neither central or local government in the UK is doing anything about this component of waste but we now have a solution – oxo-biodegradable or "Controlled-life" plastic.

"If collected during its useful life it can be recycled with normal plastic (see <http://www.biodeg.org/position-papers/recycling/?domain=biodeg.org>), but if not, it takes care of itself by harmlessly degrading then biodegrading - more quickly than straw and twigs and much more quickly than ordinary or recycled plastic. It does not just fragment, but is completely bio-assimilated by naturally-occurring micro-organisms. It is thus has key ecological benefits and there is little or no extra cost, as it is made with the same polymers as ordinary plastic and with the same machinery.

"Like ordinary plastics, it is made from a by-product of oil or natural gas, and so long as these are needed for fuel it makes good environmental and economic sense to

use the by-product, instead of using scarce land and water resources to produce vegetable-based compostable plastics, which are too expensive for everyday use, and do not readily degrade unless collected and taken to a commercial composting plant.

“I am delighted to be able to help the Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association to make the public more aware of the contribution that oxo-biodegradable plastic can make to protecting the environment.”

Professor Gerald Scott, DSc, FRSC, C.Chem, FIMMM, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Oxo-biodegradable Plastics Association, Professor Emeritus of Polymer Science of Aston University, and Chairman of the British Standards Institute Committee on Biodegradability of Plastics said “I am delighted to welcome Chris Packham to the Association’s team of specialist advisers. His knowledge of the natural environment and his communications skills will be of great benefit to the Association.”

For further information, go to www.biodeg.org

NOTE TO EDITORS

THE OXO-BIODEGRADABLE PLASTICS ASSOCIATION is the Trade Association for the Oxobiodegradable Plastics industry. It now has 77 Members in 53 countries. They are manufacturers, distributors and end-users of oxo-biodegradable plastic.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Max de Trense,
Carteret Communications
Tel: 0207-828-8598
M: 07795 204078
Email: trense@gmail.com