



# FACT SHEET

## *Re-use is not necessarily “environmentally friendlier” than recycling*

Re-use is not always the better environmental choice. Resources such as non-renewable fossil fuels and energy are sometimes required to set up and deliver reusable systems. Water and chemicals are frequently used to wash reusable containers and there are air emissions and waste in constantly shipping reusable containers back and forth. Lower environmental impact can often be obtained from the one-way lightweight pack that is recycled again and again.

See related blogs on sanitisation issues with reusable containers:

<a href="#">Fact and fiction in the fight to deliver your fruit and veggies</a>	05/04/2017
<a href="#">Retailers can't duck food safety issues when pushing growers to re-use crates</a>	03/28/2017
<a href="#">A moving (and puzzling) story about dead Toronto chickens</a>	12/20/ 2016
<a href="#">Retailers urged to “follow the science” on sanitisation</a>	11/11/2016
<a href="#">Food scientist warns retailers that live bacteria on crates is like a "smoking gun"</a>	03/02/2015
<a href="#">It is not as simple as re-use versus recycling</a>	02/12/2015
<a href="#">This is not a puff piece but ...</a>	12/11/2014
<a href="#">Re-use is not always the better alternative</a>	10/26/2014