

Plastic Bag: A Bane

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Open Access

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Available online at
www.sunshineagriculture.vitalbiotech.org

Article History

Received: 4. 07.2022

Revised: 12. 07.2022

Accepted: 18. 07.2022

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INTRODUCTION

Ban on plastic bags is a contentious issue. Opponents think they are superfluous and not worth the effort, while supporters assert that they have a purpose and do a lot of good. The issue of outlawing the distribution of plastic bags has come up as environmental consciousness has risen. These plastic bags' convenience comes at a very high environmental cost and has detrimental effects on human health.

Impact of Plastic on Human health and Wildlife

The plastic bags are packed with dangerous and poisonous compounds including those that resemble estrogen. The plastic possesses hormone-mimicking properties, and the plastic items emit the compounds that mimicks estrogen, according to a paper by Environmental Health Perspectives. This is harmful because it means that hormones like estrogen and others won't function as they should in our systems, leading to a hormonal imbalance that could have a negative impact on our health.

When birds, animals and marine life eat these plastic pieces, their digestive systems become clogged, which can cause illnesses to develop and even death from suffocation. According to a research, turtles consuming plastic results in over 35 percent of turtle deaths. According to ABC News, a 2008 crocodile autopsy in Australia revealed 25 bags in the animal's stomach. A National Geographic research claims that every single seabird is consuming plastic because 90 percent of them contain waste plastic.

Plastic Bags and Economy

Production of plastic material is very energy intensive process. The cost of plastic bag cleaning is around 17 cents per bag; as a result, taxpayers typically pay \$88 per year solely for plastic bag garbage. The energy needed to make nine plastic bags is equal to the entire energy needed to drive a car one kilometre (0.5 miles). As stated by the U.S.

According to the Census Bureau, each household in the country uses about 885 plastic bags annually or 17 bags every week. Four reusable bags are all that are required to replace those 17 plastic bags each week because one grocery-sized reusable bag can store the items as four plastic bags' can when packed properly.

Paper Bag: an alternative of Plastic Bag

Because they are difficult to recycle, plastic bags are not good for the environment. The alternative to plastic bags is paper bags. Paper bags can be used instead of plastic bags because they are easy to use. Paper bags can support greater weight than a tiny single-use plastic bag since they are constructed of strong

paper. Before using them again, you can iron the paper bags to restore their appearance. In the meantime, used plastic bags are frequently severely wrinkled, and there is nothing you can do about it.

Contrary to popular belief, today's paper and paper bags are created mostly using eco-friendly materials other than of trees, such as sugarcane waste (Bagasse), straw, and jute. Reusable bag production will open up new career options in packaging product innovation, green manufacturing, and sales. Historically, bigger amounts of commodities were packaged in cloth and jute bags when they were transported from producers or farms to merchants and shopkeepers.