
Recycling Old Styroblock™ or Copperblock™ Containers

By Thomas D. Landis

Styroblock™ containers (“blocks”) are very popular in the Pacific Northwest, but disposal of used blocks has become a real problem because Styrofoam™ can’t be readily recycled and Styroblock™ containers are rejected by most landfills. So, at many nurseries, valuable storage space is filled with used blocks (Figure 1A) with no disposal method in sight.



Figure 1 – Many nurseries are plagued by stacks of used Styroblock™ and Copperblock™ containers, that cannot be recycled or taken to landfills (A). A new process grinds and compresses the used blocks into a more easily disposable product (B).

Just recently, EPS Plastics Solutions has developed a new method of disposing of used Styroblock™ and Copperblock™ containers. The used blocks are run through their custom machines that grind and compress them into a “densified” product (Figure 1B) that can easily be removed from the nursery. This process costs from 15¢ to 20¢ per Styroblock™ and each machine can consume up to 400 blocks per hour. While most of the work has been in western Canada, they are currently looking for new customers.

For More Information, contact:

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