

Degradable polymer film technology licensed to Integrated Packaging



The CRC-P and Integrated Packaging, have completed a licence agreement that will see technology for producing a new range of degradable polyethylene films used in both agricultural and industrial applications. Integrated Packaging is an Australian company and a major supplier of plastic films to the domestic market. John Cerini, the CEO of Integrated Packaging, noted “The technology provides greater control over timing the degradation of the film, opening up the possibility for use of these films in more demanding agricultural applications that include improving water use efficiency in crop production and more effective planting practices for re-establishing native woodlands.”

The Chair of the CRC-P, Dr Peter Coldrey, awarded the team that developed the technology a Chairman’s Award for Excellence in Commercialisation. He praised their achievement, noting that “This was an excellent example of the benefits of the CRC Program as it allowed the Centre to develop world-leading technology in Australia by bringing together the required multidisciplinary team drawn from five organisations: Integrated Packaging, Queensland University of Technology, University of Queensland, CSIRO and Birchip Cropping Group.”

The CEO of the CRC-P, Dr Ian Dagley, said this was a further example of the importance of polymer science to manufacturing, commenting that “Developing a polymer with properties specifically tailored for the final application is critical technology for Australian manufacturers. It allows them to sell better products than their overseas competitors. The CRC for Polymers plays a vital role in partnering with Australian companies to develop the required polymers.”

Above, John Cerini, CEO of Integrated Packaging (right), and Ian Dagley, CEO of the CRC for Polymers, signing the degradable films licence agreement. Image to the left shows degradable films deployed in field trials.



Members of the CRC-P project team that developed the degradable polymer technology.