

Food Industry

0 Comments

KFC, Frito-Lay join forces to recycle packaging waste

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LOUISVILLE, Ky. -- KFC teamed up with sister PepsiCo company Frito-Lay Inc. to develop a program that will convert preconsumer waste from the snack company's processing into KFC restaurant trays.

The process will turn packaging film waste from such Frito-Lay's products as Ruffle's and Lay's into pellets that can later be turned into KFC restaurant trays. Trays made from the recycled material were tested in four Dallas-area restaurants in late 1993. KFC engineers found no performance difference between trays made of recycled Frito-Lay packaging and trays made of virgin plastic, the company said.

"KFC is a strong supporter of the environmental 'Three R's -- reduce, reuse, recycle,'" said Glenn White, KFC senior engineer who directed the test last year. "These recycled trays ful-fill all three R's."

Packaging waste from Frito-Lay bags is chopped, mixed with dye and formed into pellets in Summerville, S.C. From there the pellets are shipped to KFC's tray-molding plant in Durham, N.C., where the pellets are formed into trays.

"We have been successful with several projects and have proved with this particular process that there is high-value use for packaging film waste," said Frank Gavitt, Frito-Lay vice president, processing and packaging development. "In the past year we've recycled more than 4.5 million pounds on these projects."

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