

# Instructions for the Service and Grower packaging declaration form

2024 packaging data

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Used to report Service and Grower packaging data:

- companies that manufacture service and farmer packaging in Finland or import it to Finland report on this form.

**NOTE! Packaging data is reported earlier.  
2024 packaging data is reported at the  
latest by 31.1.2025!**

**Companies must return all three  
2024 packaging data declaration forms:**

- 1) Basic declaration form (light or detailed),**
- 2) SUP packaging declaration form**
- 3) Service and grower packaging declaration form**

NOTE! Companies that have joined the EPR system in 2024 and have a turnover of less than one million euros, do not report on the Service and grower packaging declaration form.

If a company has nothing to report on a form,  
it is returned empty.

## What is the Service and Farmer's Pack declaration form?

The separate Service and Grower Packaging Declaration Form is used for reporting by **companies that have manufactured empty service and grower packaging in Finland or imported it empty to Finland in 2024, but did not pack products in these packaging.**

If a Finnish company packs products in service and grower packaging that it has imported or manufactured itself, the company reports this service and farmer packaging only on the Basic Declaration Form (light or detailed).

On the basis of the packaging reported on the service and grower packaging declaration form, service and grower packaging manufacturers and importers will pay the 2024 recycling fees ex-post for the service and grower packaging for which the producer responsibility was transferred to them on 1.1.2024 as a result of the change in legislation. The form is used due to the transitional period caused by the change in producer responsibility for service and grower packaging.

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Packaging data is reported on the Extranet:



[extranet.rinkiin.fi](https://extranet.rinkiin.fi)

# Instructions for filling in the declaration form for service and grower packaging

Reporting service and grower packaging	s. 4
Service packaging	s. 6
Grower packaging	s. 7
Supply chain for service and grower packaging	s. 8
Instructions for filling in the declaration form	s. 9

# Reporting service and grower packaging

## Who reports service and grower packaging

From 1.1.2024, producer responsibility for service and grower packaging was transferred to the service and grower packaging manufacturer in Finland or the importer to Finland.

From 2024 onwards, service and grower packaging will no longer be reported by those who fill the packaging, but by the manufacturers or importers of the empty packaging. This applies to all reporting forms used for reporting packaging data, i.e. the reporting of service and grower packaging will always be the responsibility of the manufacturer of empty service and grower packaging in Finland or the importer to Finland. For example, a take-away coffee cup (service packaging) served in a café is reported by the importer or manufacturer of the cup, not by the café packing the coffee in the cup.

## What packaging is reported on the Service and Grower Packaging Declaration Form?

The service and grower packaging declaration form is used by Finnish manufacturers or importers of service and grower packaging to report the volume of service and grower packaging placed on the Finnish market in 2024 for which the producer responsibility was transferred to the company as a result of the 1.1.2024 amendment in legislation. This means service and grower packaging that the company manufactures in Finland or imports into Finland but does not use for packing products.

The service and grower packaging declaration form is therefore not used to report service and grower packaging manufactured or imported by the company and in which the company itself packages the products, as the company already had producer responsibility for this packaging before the 1.1.2024 change in the law. For example, a supermarket chain is not required to report on this form plastic bags offered to consumers in its stores that it has also imported itself, as the supermarket chain as packager already had producer responsibility for these plastic bags before.

# Reporting service and grower packaging

## What other forms are used to report Service and Grower Packaging?

**Manufacturers or importers of service or grower packaging must also report all service and grower packaging placed on the Finnish market on the basic packaging information form (light or detailed).**

The basic declaration form is also used to report service and grower packaging that is filled by the company manufacturing or importing the packaging (packs products in packaging).

In addition, manufacturers or importers of service or grower packaging will report on the SUP packaging declaration form those service and grower packaging they place on the market that is used as SUP packaging in Finland. For example, the manufacturer or importer of take-away cups containing plastic will also report these cups on the SUP form.

After the reporting of packaging data in 2024, service and grower packaging will no longer need to be reported on a separate form but will only be included in the packaging reported on the basic declaration form and, for SUP packaging, in the packaging reported on the SUP packaging declaration form.

## What fees are paid for packaging reported on the Service and Grower Packaging Declaration Form?

Packaging reported on the service and grower packaging declaration form will be invoiced ex-post for the 2024 recycling fees. The fees will be invoiced according to the 2024 price list of the producer organisation with which the company had a contract in 2024.

The reported packaging volumes will be used to cover the 2024 producer responsibility fees for service and grower packaging for which producer responsibility was transferred to the manufacturer and importer. The fees will be collected ex-post, as the producer responsibility for service and grower packaging was already transferred to the manufacturer or importer from 1.1.2024, but manufacturers or importers will only report service and grower packaging for the first time in 2025 (when reporting 2024 packaging data).

The 2024 business service fee will also be charged on the basis of the packaging reported on the service and grower packaging declaration form, in accordance with the 2024 price list. The 2024 business service fee will take into account the 2024 business service fee already paid, i.e. if a company has already paid the maximum business service fee for 2024, no additional business service fee will be charged.

# Service packaging

## What is SERVICE PACKAGING

**Service packaging is packaging used to pack food and other products at the point of sale directly to the consumer.**

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Examples include shopping bags, takeaway food and drink containers, takeaway bakery products packaging, packaging for bakery products sold in bulk, and wrapping and bags used for packaging vegetables, meat and fish products at the point of sale.

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A service packing is filled on the same premises where the product is sold to the consumer (e.g. in a café or shop). Service packaging does not therefore include packaging of products pre-packaged elsewhere (e.g. salads packaged in a central kitchen and delivered to a shop for sale).

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The packaging used by online shops is not, by definition, service packaging. However, if a company uses exactly the same packaging in its online shop as it uses as service packaging in its physical shop, the packaging used in the online shop is also classified as service packaging. For example, if a grocery store packs orders placed online in the same shopping bags that are offered to consumers in the store, the plastic bag used to pack the online order is also service packaging.

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Service packaging is used in particular in retail and catering, but also in other service activities (e.g. hairdressing salons and laundries), industry (e.g. bakeries) and culture and entertainment (e.g. museums and sports centres).

Service packaging is typically made of paper fibres, plastic and aluminium.

# Grower packaging

## What is GROWER PACKAGING

**Grower packaging is packaging of unprocessed agricultural and horticultural products intended for direct farm sale, used by agricultural and horticultural businesses.**

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Unprocessed agricultural and horticultural products are products which have undergone only simple physical treatment, known as 'preparation', which does not significantly alter their nature (e.g. washing, defoliation, sorting or other similar simple physical treatment). Therefore, packaging used by agricultural and horticultural entrepreneurs for the packaging of processed agricultural and horticultural products is not considered to be 'grower packaging'.

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Processing includes, for example, drying (excluding drying of cereals), grinding, crushing, peeling, freezing, maturing, cutting, further processing of animal production from slaughter, treatment of seeds and egg packing in egg packing plants where eggs are stamped and/or packed for final consumers and large-scale farms.

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Grower packaging also includes group and transport packaging used by the agricultural and horticultural holding when products meeting the definition of grower packaging are packed in it. For example, if plastic boxes of strawberries are packed in a cardboard box and cardboard boxes are packed on a wooden pallet, all of these are grower packaging.

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**NOTE! Packaging used by the food industry, wholesalers or packing centres for the packaging of unprocessed agricultural and horticultural products is not considered as grower packaging.** For these, the packing company has producer responsibility.

# Supply chain of service and grower packaging

What if we do not know the final use of the packaging we have manufactured or imported?

It can be challenging for packaging manufacturers and importers to know what end-use of the packaging will be downstream. **Whether a particular packaging is a service packaging, a grower packaging or, for example, an SUP packaging, depends not just on the packaging itself, but on what is packed.** However, the manufacturer or importer has an obligation to identify the use of packaging in the supply chain in order to ensure that packaging data is reported successfully and that producer responsibility payments for packaging are allocated to the right company.

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When a company manufactures or imports packaging that is typically used as service or grower packaging, the packaging is also reported as service or grower packaging, unless the manufacturer or importer can demonstrate that the packaging will be used for other purposes.



# Instructions for filling in the declaration form

- 1.** **First, submit the Basic Packing data Declaration Form (detailed or light) to Rinki.** The Service and Grower Packaging Declaration Form will open for completion after the submission of the Basic Declaration Form.  
The reporting form for service and grower packaging is either a lightweight or a detailed basic reporting form, depending on which form is used for reporting basic packaging data.

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- 2.** **Fill in the Service and Grower Packaging declaration form.** When you open the form for the first time, a questionnaire will appear asking "Does your company manufacture or import empty service or grower packaging that it does not package itself?".
  - When you answer yes, the form will open.
  - If you answer no, the form does not need to be filled in and is automatically returned to Rinki.

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- 3.** **Use this form to report the volume in kilograms of empty service and grower packaging you put on the market in 2024.** However, do not use this form to report service and grower packaging that was also filled by your company, i.e. in which you packed the product yourself.
  - Empty service and grower packaging produced or imported by the company is reported in the same fields as in the Basic Declaration form. When packaging data is reported on the detailed declaration form, service and grower packaging is always reported in the column 'Packaging of products packed in Finland', since the packaging of the product itself takes place in Finland. Also report the empty service and grower's packaging you import in the column Packed in Finland.
  - Packaging data can only be entered on the form in those cells where the company has reported figures on the Basic Declaration form. In addition, the maximum number of cells in which packaging data can be reported is the same as the number reported in the corresponding cell of the Basic Declaration Form.

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- 4.** **Send the form to RINKI on the Extranet.**



**Do you have questions on reporting?**  
Our Business Customer Service is happy to help!

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