

# Food Packaging Sustainability Report

Updated: August 2023

**Our Vision:** The Trade Aid Movement is committed to reducing environmental impacts in all Trade Aid's activities.



## Background:

Packaging for us is a big deal, and we have a tough job on our hands managing products from 57 different trading partners located across 22 countries. The final destinations of our products are consumers located from the tip of the North Island to the foot of the South Island of New Zealand. As you can imagine, there is no one size fits all solution across our thousands of lines of product, given the geographical spread of packaging origin and disposal locations.

Despite this, it is our intention to continually reduce the impact of all of our packaging whilst looking after other important aspects such as requirements for maintaining quality and meeting food safety compliance, and matching these to the best solutions that are available in the relevant markets at an achievable cost.

## Where we are at with our food packaging:

Using a packaging sustainability scoring system for our range of food products, we have allocated ourselves two scores:

### Combined Packaging Score = 0.542

This score looks across our various different styles and forms of packaging and rates each product. Our scoring sheet rates a large variety of elements for each product such as recyclability, reusability, number of components and disposal instructions, and assigns a total score to each product.

As we consider 2.0 to be a good result, and 3.0 to be an excellent result, we still have a lot of work to do.

### Weighted Packaging Score = 2.62

This score considers what actually goes out the door of Trade Aid. We take the basic score for each product and allocate it a weighting according to the volume of product sold. This provides an accurate reflection of the volume of each type of packaging entering our waste streams, and can help us with planning and understanding which changes will make the most impact.

On this criterion, we perform rather better, in large part due to the fact that our chocolate range in compostable packaging accounts for more than half the stock units we sell.

## Where we plan to be:

As we introduce new products or need to replace existing packaging, we aim to use packaging that raises our score.

The packaging industry is very dynamic at the moment and increasingly focused on providing alternative solutions to meet customer and consumer demand. This means that there are new solutions available that can help us reduce our impact.

## Activities required to achieve our goals:

- 1. Replace current plastic pouches with 100% recyclable alternatives.**  
Timeline: 100% of pouches recyclable within 2 years.  
This is dependent on a suitable recyclable pouch coming on the market.
- 2. Close the loop (where a linear consumption process is replaced with a closed loop in which used products are recovered and recycled).**  
Timeline: Establish a system whereby compostable packaging can be returned instore for commercial composting.



# Trade Aid Combined Packaging Score Chart

PRODUCT	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	+4
200g Coffee		-1					
1kg Coffee					+2		
100g Instant Coffee	-2						
500g Instant Coffee						+3	
Retail Tea				+1			
1.25kg Tea Bags					+2		
100g Rooibos Loose	-2						
1kg Rooibos Loose		-1					
300g Drinking Chocolate							+4
2kg Drinking Chocolate						+3	
5kg Drinking Chocolate					+2		
200g Cocoa Powder						+3	
2kg Cocoa Powder		-1					
400g Muscovado Sugar	-2						
500g Granulated Sugar	-2						
1.5kg Granulated Sugar				+1			
5kg Granulated Sugar		-1					
Chocolate Bar Range							+4
Retail Chocolate Drops	-2						
10kg Chocolate Drops					+2		
Chocolate Coated Products						+3	
250ml Chocolate Sauce						+3	
Retail Spices				+1			
Bulk Spices		-1					
1kg Rice				+1			
5kg Rice		-1					
Coconut Milk				+1			
Preda Dried Fruit	-2						
100g Nuts	-2						
COMBINED PACKAGING SCORE	0.45						
WEIGHTED PACKAGING SCORE	2.62						