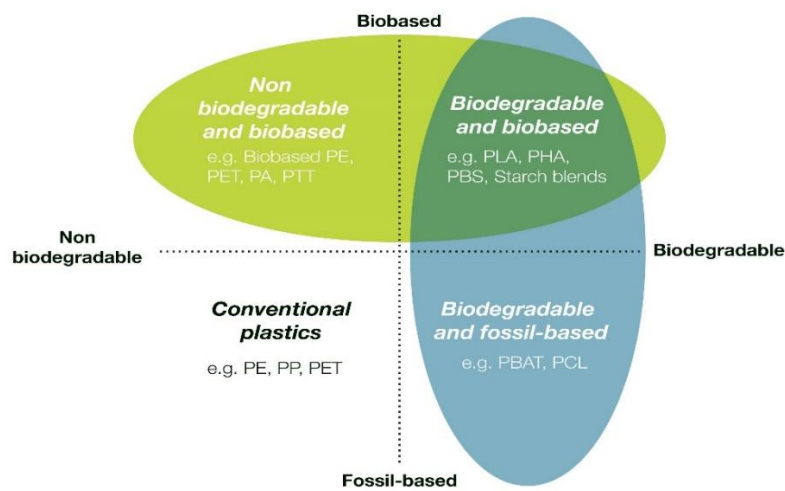


Bioplastics Information Sheet



Source: EUBP

1. Conventional Plastics

These types of non-biodegradable, bio-based plastics are manufactured in essentially the same way as conventional fossil-based plastics but use biomass instead of fossil fuels as their building blocks.

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Low cost	Not biodegradable
Recyclable	

2. Bio-based/renewable and non-biodegradable

These types of non-biodegradable, bio-based plastics are manufactured in essentially the same way as conventional fossil-based plastics but use biomass instead of fossil fuels as their building blocks.

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Materials from non-oil-based resources	Higher cost compared to conventional plastics
Recyclable	Not biodegradable



3. Bio-based/renewable and biodegradable

These plastics are designed to be composted in an industrial composting facility (or home compost) and are biodegradable.

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Materials from non-oil-based resources	Higher cost compared to conventional plastics
Either home or industrial compostable	If added in high percentage may contaminate the recycling stream

4. Fossil-based and biodegradable

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Either home or industrial compostable	Higher cost compared to conventional plastics
	If added in high percentage may contaminate the recycling stream