

Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label

Low-Noise Garden Shredders

RAL-UZ 54



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RAL gGmbH

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Prolongation for 1 year without any change

Prolongation for 2 years without any change, until 31.12.2017

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Specimen Contract.....

1 Preliminary Remarks

- 1.1** In cooperation with the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Federal Environmental Agency and considering the results of the expert hearings conducted by RALgGmbH, the Environmental Label Jury has set up these Basic Criteria for the Award of the Environmental Label. RAL gGmbH, has been entrusted with the award of the Environmental Label.

Upon application to RAL gGmbH and on the basis of a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH the permission to use the Environmental Label may be granted for all products, provided that they comply with the requirements as specified hereinafter.

- 1.2** Garden shredders are of great use in waste management.

Bulky cuttings of trees and bushes can be processed into compostable material and thus do no longer arise as wastes.

However, garden shredders usually mean a great noise nuisance to outdoor recreational activities. These machines were rated "very noisy" and "noisy" in comparative noise-emission testing. Award of the Environmental Label to low-noise garden shredders is to promote noise reduction efforts.

2 Scope

Garden shredders are size reduction machines for organic material as defined in para. 1 of DIN 11004 or ISO 11448.

3 Requirements

The Environmental Label shown on page 1 may be used for the marking of products under paragraph 2, provided that they comply with the following requirements:

3.1 Noise Emission Requirements

- 3.1.1** The declared sound power level (L_{WAd}) determined in accordance with the measurement method described in paragraph 4 shall not exceed 92 dB(A).

A shredder type application is to be filed. The distributor shall name and specify the type of shredder.

The L_{WAd} value to be entered into the shredder type application shall be calculated using the following formula:

$$L_{WAd} = L_{WAE} + K1$$

L_{WAE} = single sample for the type test

$K1 = 3 \text{ dB(A)}$ (correction value added for a „declared“ value).

The declared sound power level L_{WAd} to be entered into the type application can also be determined by means of the corresponding measurement data according to ISO 4871 provided that it has been calculated and recorded by a testing laboratory qualified under Article 15 of Directive 2000/14/EC.

- 3.1.2** The sound pressure level in the workplace shall not exceed 85 dB(A). The workplace-related sound pressure level shall be determined according to DIN EN 13683. Measurements shall be taken and recorded by a testing laboratory certified under Article 15 of Directive 2000/14/EC.

3.2 Safety and Serviceability Requirements

- 3.2.1** The products must meet safety requirements as specified in DIN 11004 or ISO 11448 - size reduction machines for plant residues - safety requirements and testing.

3.2.2 Serviceability

The garden shredders must be able to chop tree cuttings and other plant residues as well as organic kitchen wastes into compostable material.

3.3 Marking of Plastics

The plastic parts of the appliances weighing more than 50g shall be marked pursuant to DIN 54840 or ISO 11469, respectively.

3.4 Obligation to Accept the Return of Used Products

Applicants undertake to accept the after-use return of their garden shredders marked with the Environmental Label in order to forward the machines / components to reuse or proper material utilization, resp.. This can either be done by the applicant himself or by an agent. Non-recyclable device parts shall be forwarded to proper disposal.

The Operating Instructions shall include information on the possibility to return used appliances.

3.5 Design of Recyclable Technical Products

The products shall conform to the principles of VDI Directive 2243 "Konstruieren recyclinggerechter technischer Produkte" (Design of recyclable technical products) on the basis of characteristics set up by the manufacturer taking future reuse and material utilization processes into account.

Such characteristics include among others:

- Avoidance of coatings and composite structure materials.

- Easy detachability of the machines and their subassemblies, also for the purpose of easy repairing considering the safety requirements as specified in DIN 11004 or ISO 11448.
- Reduction of the multitude of materials.

3.6 Plastic Cases

Large-size plastic case parts and subassemblies must be made of a uniform polymer (homopolymer or copolymer) to make sure that they can be reutilized on the basis of existing technologies for the production of high-quality and long-lived industrial products. Polymer blends (polymer alloys) shall be permissible.¹

3.7 Additives

The plastics must not contain any additives containing Cd or Pb. The plastics used must be reutilizable on the basis of existing technologies. This shall not apply to small plastic parts (< 50g).

3.8 Product Information

The written reference material supplied along with the appliances shall be printed on paper bleached without chlorine (fresh fibre or waste paper).

4 Measurement Method

4.1 The L_{WAE} value shall be determined using the measurement method described in DIN EN 13683:2004-03, see paragraph 5.10.2. The measurement shall be carried out at a timber moisture content of 18 percent ($\pm 3\%$).

Measurement of sound power level: Annex F.2

Measurement of sound pressure level in the workplace: Annex F.3

Measurements for determining L_{WAd} and sound power level in the workplace shall be made on an artificial ground (as defined in Annex F4.1).

4.2 Installation, Mounting and Operating Conditions

See DIN EN 13683: 2004-03 Annex F5-F7.

Material shall be inserted through the main feed intake opening exclusively. The apparatuses shall be placed with the discharge opening pointing towards microphone position No.1. The testing operator shall not place himself/herself between the microphone and the apparatus.

¹ Polymer blends are special mixtures of two or more plastics offering better properties than the plastics contained in the mixture as such.

5 Compliance Verifications

- 5.1** Compliance with the requirements set forth in paras. 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 shall be verified by submission of a test report from a testing laboratory certified under Article 15 of European Directive 2000/14/EC (cf. Bundesanzeiger - Federal Gazette - as amended).
- 5.2** Compliance with the requirements under para. 3.2.1 is to be verified by presentation of a test certificate of a testing institute authorized by the Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs to do Appliance Safety Tests on garden shredders within the scope of the Ordinance on Appliance Safety Testing Institutes, as amended.
- 5.3** The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirements under paras. 3.2.2, 3.3 - 3.8. He shall indicate the marking of the plastics used and present the Operating Instructions.

6 Applicants and Parties Involved

- 6.1** Manufacturers of garden shredders shall be eligible for application.

6.2 Applicants and Parties Involved

Parties involved in the award process

- RAL gGmbH to award the Blue Angel Eco-Label,
- the federal state where applicant's production site is located,
- Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environmental Agency) which, after signing of the contract, receives all data and documents submitted in application for the Blue Angel in order to be able to proceed with the development of the Basic Award Criteria.

7 Use of the Environmental Label

- 7.1** The terms governing applicant's use of the Environmental Label are stipulated by a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH.
- 7.2** Within the scope of such contract the applicant undertakes to comply with the requirements under para. 3 as long as he makes use of the Environmental Label.
- 7.3** Contracts on the Use of the Environmental Label are concluded for the marking of products according to para.2.
- These contracts shall run until December 31, 2017. They shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless the contract is terminated in writing by March 31, 2017 or by March 31 of the respective year of extension.

After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect products being still in the market.

- 7.4** The applicant (manufacturer) shall be entitled to apply to RAL gGmbH for an extension of the right to use the label to the product entitled to the label if it is to be marketed under another brand/trade name and/or under other marketing organizations.
- 7.5** The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label shall give the following particulars:
 - 7.5.1** Applicant (manufacturer)
 - 7.5.2** Brand/trade name
 - 7.5.3** Distributor (label user) i.e. the marketing organization according to para. 7.4.

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C O N T R A C T

No.
on the Award of the Environmental Label

RAL gGmbH, as label awarding agency, and the firm of
(Distributor/Manufacturer)

as applicant, conclude the following Contract on the Use
of the Environmental Label:

S P E C I M E N

1. Under the following conditions the applicant shall be entitled to use the Environmental Label for the labelling of the product/product group/project:

Low-Noise Garden Shredders

"(Brand/Trade Name - Product Designation)"

This shall not include the right to use the Environmental Label as part of a brand. Unless otherwise agreed, the Environmental Label shall only be used in the above given shape and colour. The entire inner surrounding text shall always be identical as regards size, form, thickness and colour of the letters and it shall be easy to read.

2. The Environmental Label according to para. 1 shall only be used for the above-mentioned product/product group/project.
3. If the Environmental Label is used for advertising purposes the applicant shall make sure that it is exclusively used in connection with the above-named product/product group/project for which the use of the Environmental Label has been granted and settled under this contract. The applicant shall be solely responsible for the way the label is used, above all, in advertising.
4. During the entire period of label use the product/product group/project to be labelled shall comply with all requirements and conditions for the use of the label as specified in the "Vergabegrundlage für Umweltzeichen RAL-UZ 54" (Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 54), as amended. This shall also apply to the reproduction of the Environmental Label (including the surrounding text). Claims for damages against RAL gGmbH, especially on the grounds of third party objections to the applicant's use of the label and the accompanying advertising shall be ruled out.
5. If the "Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label" provide for checks by third parties the applicant shall bear the costs accruing in connection therewith.
6. Should the applicant himself or third parties find out that the applicant does not comply with the conditions as

stipulated in paras. 2-5 he shall be liable to inform RAL and stop the use of the Environmental Label until the conditions are complied with again. Should the applicant be incapable of restoring the state required for the use of the label immediately or should the applicant seriously offend against this contract RAL may, if necessary, withdraw the Environmental Label and prohibit the applicant from using the label any longer. Claims for damages against RAL gGmbH because of the withdrawal of the label shall be ruled out.

7. The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label may be terminated for good reason.
Examples of good reasons are:
 - unpaid contributions
 - substantiated risk of injury and death.In such case, applicant's continued use of the Environmental Label shall be prohibited.
The applicant shall not be entitled to bring a claim for damages against RAL (see above: paragraph 6, sentence 3).
8. The applicant undertakes to pay RAL gGmbH an amount according to the "Entgeltordnung für das Umweltzeichen" (Schedule of Contributions for the Environmental Label), as amended, for the period of use.
9. According to the Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 54 this contract will run until December 31, **2017**. It shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless terminated in writing by March 31, **2017** or by March 31 of the respective year of extension. After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect the products being still in the market.
10. Products/projects marked with the Environmental Label and the advertising for these products/projects may reach the consumer only when naming the firm of the (Applicant/Distributor)

Sankt Augustin, this day of

Date, Place

RAL gGmbH
Management

(Signature of authorized representative
and corporate seal)

