

Meat Tray Life Cycle Assessment

What is an LCA?

Life cycle assessments, or LCAs, measure the environmental impacts of a product or service.

What did the meat tray LCA evaluate?

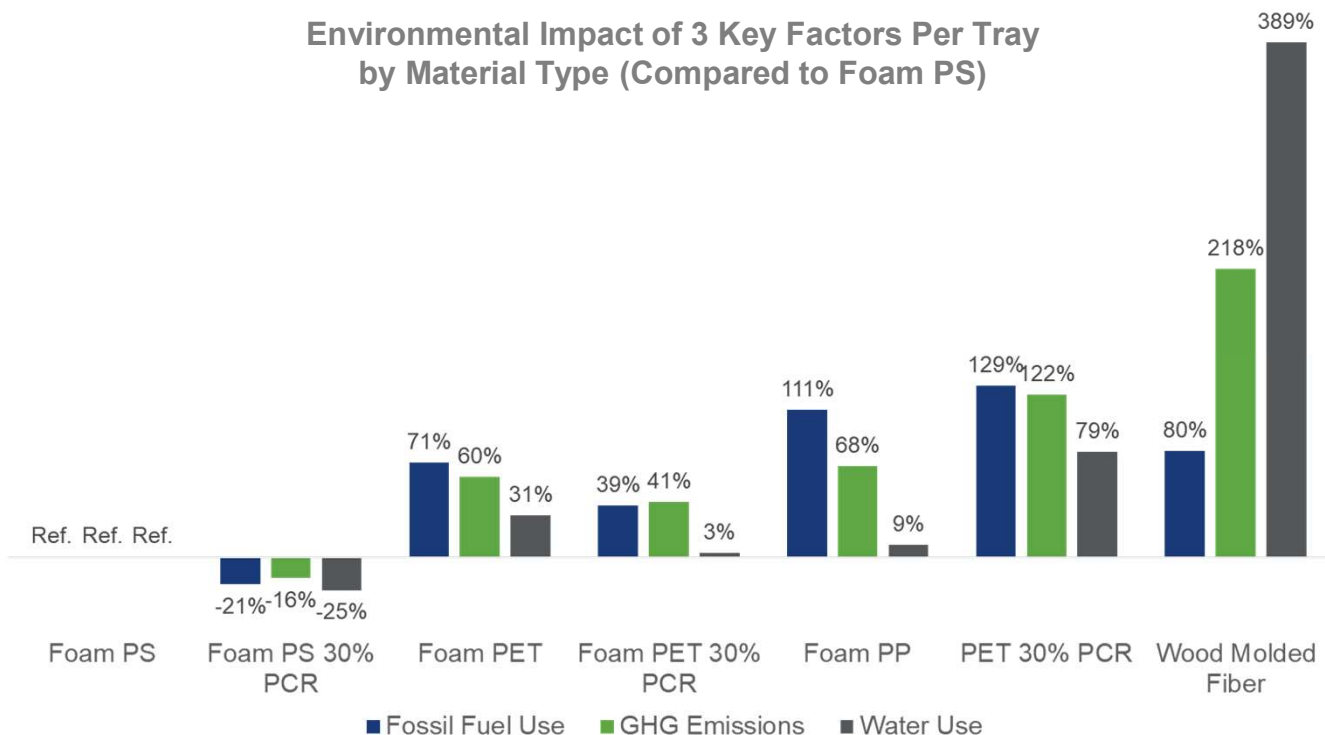
Pactiv Evergreen commissioned the LCA of various meat tray materials and environmental indicators. These included:

- **Materials:** foam polystyrene (PS), foam PS with 30% PCR, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) with 30% PCR, foam PET with 30% PCR, foam PET, foam polypropylene (PP) and wood molded fiber
- **Environmental indicators:** fossil fuel use, greenhouse gas emissions, water use, freshwater ecotoxicity, GHG emissions with carbon dioxide uptake, human impact, mineral resource use, and freshwater eutrophication

What were the findings?

- Foam PS meat trays with 30% recycled content have the least environmental impact
- Wood molded fiber trays have the greatest environmental impact
- Using recycled content lessens the environmental impact
- Trays made of foamed resin have a lower environmental impact than trays made of non-foamed material because less material is used

Environmental Impact of 3 Key Factors Per Tray by Material Type (Compared to Foam PS)



Have these results been verified?

Yes. After running the assessment through Trayak's EcoImpact-COMPASS LCA tool, a third-party panel reviewed the results to confirm conformance with international standard ISO 14044.

Want to learn more?

View the entire report [here](#).