

## Saving food by use of Oxygen absorbers

By Joseph Parish



All true survivalists have found that at one time or another they have encountered various problems relating to their food storage. Perhaps they merely run out of space or even worse their containers of grub became buggy. We can't do much about the first problem but there is plenty that we can do concerning the later one.

There are several ways that one can go about preserving food for emergencies. The first way is with the use of dry ice. Dry ice tends to remove all the air from a container thus making it essentially sealed and safe from pests and bugs of any sort.

The second manner of dealing with food preservation is by the use of Oxygen absorber packets. Oxygen Absorber Packets tend to remove any oxygen from airtight containers. The oxygen level that remains is well below the 0.01 percent level. These facts have been backed up by the Food Industry standards. They are valid when the packets are used as directed by the manufacturer.

Upon exposure to air the iron that is contained in the packet immediately starts to absorb the nearby oxygen and proceeds to break it down into a harmless chemical such as iron-oxide. This chemical is completely safe in that it is contained in the oxygen packet and can not contaminate the food in any way what so ever. Each of the Oxygen Absorber Packet will treat approximately 1 gallon of forced down and settled grain, nuts, bean or seeds that are stored in the airtight container. The recommended packet quantities that

are used per container are based upon the minimum Food Industry standards. You as the ultimate consumer should be extremely wary of any suppliers who suggest anything less than those recommended above.

The principle of the oxygen absorber is that if they are efficient enough they will create a vacuum in the airtight container similar to those found in the common cans. If you happen to notice that the sides as well as the tops of the plastic containers are drawn in then you have a good seal as this is a normal occurrence. Partly filled containers may possibly be drawn in greatly while those that are full do not get drawn in as much. You can avoid these drastically drawn in situations by merely ensuring that your plastic containers are full completely when you seal them.

Of particular interest is the idea that in some extreme cases you may have to drill a hole in the lid in order to remove it from the container. You can later reseal the small hole with a dab or two of silicone sealer.

The cost associated with the oxygen absorber packets is not too bad as they generally run around twelve to thirteen dollars for a bag of 25. So now you can be assured that your stored grains and wheat will be pest free.