

HOW LONG UNTIL IT'S GONE?



Everyday, consumers purchase items that comes in packaging made of materials that takes a long time to decompose. These materials then end up in the ocean, which creates a harmful environment for ocean life. Research shows that styrofoam, tin, aluminum, and plastic can take a long time to decomposed, and certain plastics can't be recycled at all. Plastics that can't be recycled are called *soft plastics* such as cling films or Ziploc bags. Below is a timeline of how long it takes for various materials to decomposed. On the right side of the timeline shows the amount of years that it takes for certain materials to decompose. The left side shows the future years when that certain material will be completely decomposed.

10-20 years to decompose

PLASTIC BAG

2015 0

2065 50

50 years to decompose

TIN CAN

STYROFOAM CUP

2115 100

2165 150

200 years to decompose

ALUMINUM CAN

2215 200

2265 250

Hundreds of animals gets entangled everyday. Most gets entangled for mistaken plastic rings or other materials for food.

2315 300

47.1% OF SEALS (9/19) THAT WERE RECORDED, ARE ENTANGLED IN 2015

2365 350

100% OF TURTLES (7/7) THAT WERE RECORDED, ARE ALSO ENTANGLED IN 2015.

2415 400

400 years to decompose

6-PACK RINGS



2465 450

450 years to decompose

PLASTIC BOTTLES

2515 500

2565 550

600 years to decompose

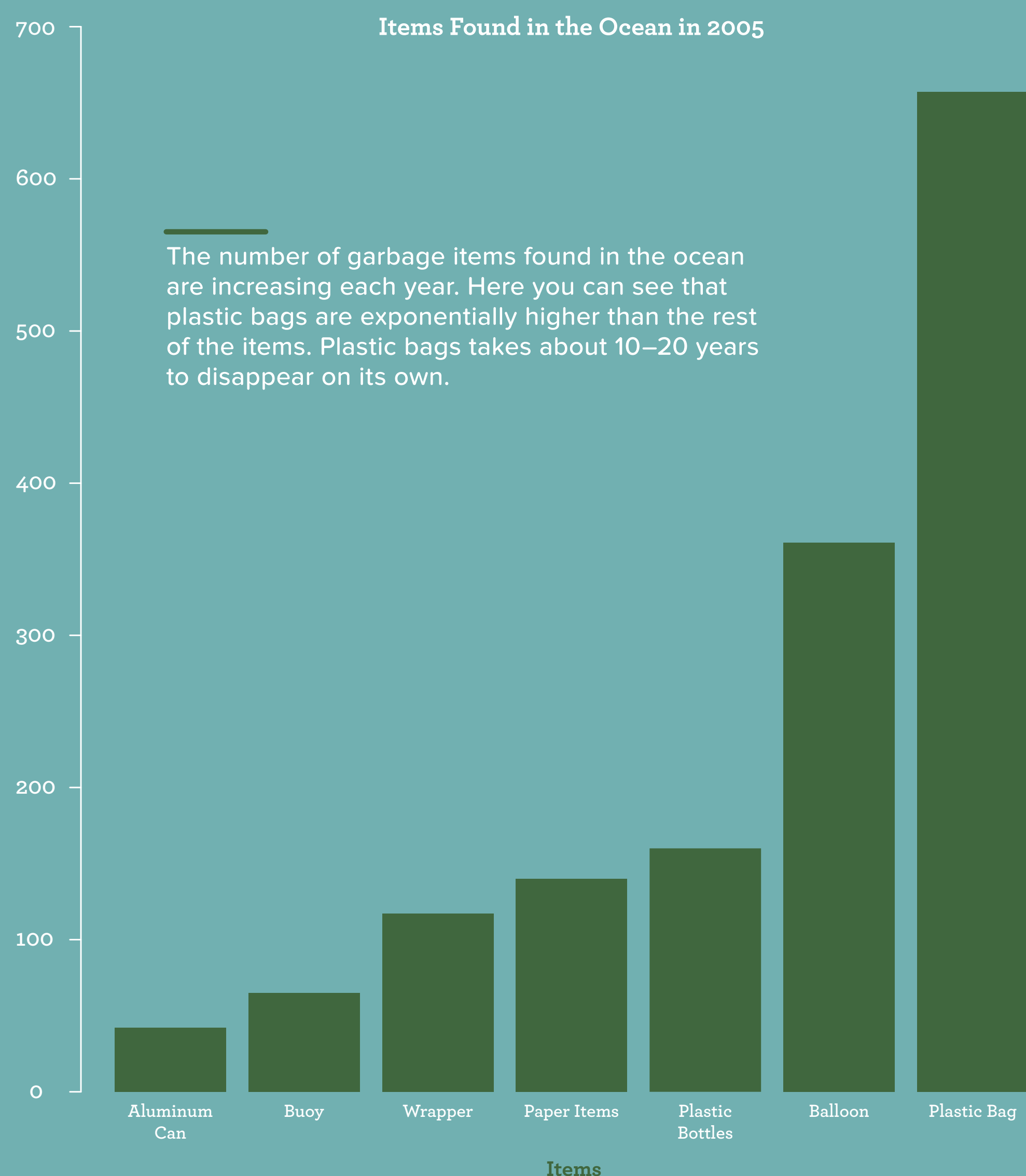
FISHING LINES

2615 600

2665 650

YEARS

Numbers of things found



In 2003, the U.N. Environment Program found 13,000 pieces of plastics floating on every square kilometer of the ocean.



SOURCES:
 Kühn 2015 Deleterious Effects Marine Litter Document
www.youtube.com/watch?v=02WjKxk1veQ
www.cleanwater.org
education.nationalgeographic.org