

How to Trade Used Cooking Oil (UCO) Legally & Profitably

India-Compliant Guide for Hotels, Restaurants, Aggregators & Biodiesel Producers

Used Cooking Oil (UCO) is one of India's fastest-growing raw materials for biodiesel production. When handled legally, it becomes a high-value commodity—not waste. But UCO trade is regulated, and following proper standards is essential for compliance, safety, and profitability.

This guide explains how to collect, store, transport, and trade UCO legally and profitably using BioTradX.

1. Understand the Legal Framework in India

UCO trading is governed by multiple Indian authorities:

✓ FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)

- Defines UCO as oil that has exceeded **3% Total Polar Compounds (TPC)**.
- Mandates that FBOs (Hotels, Restaurants, Caterers, Cloud Kitchens) **must not reuse oil beyond the safe limit**.
- Requires proper **disposal and traceability** of UCO.

✓ Biodiesel Procurement (OMCs & Authorized Collectors)

Oil Marketing Companies (IOC, BPCL, HPCL) and authorized biodiesel manufacturers buy UCO under **RUCO** (Repurpose Used Cooking Oil) guidelines.

✓ Environmental Compliance

For large aggregators or industrial transport:

- Storage must prevent spills
- Transport should follow CPCB guidelines

- A basic record of movement must be maintained

BioTradX supports compliant traceability through digital records, QC uploads, and secure escrow payments.

2. Who Can Sell UCO Legally?

- Restaurants, hotels, QSRs
- Bakers, sweet shops, cloud kitchens
- Industrial canteens
- Food processors using frying systems
- UCO aggregators collecting from multiple kitchens

If you generate UCO, you *can legally sell it*; you simply need to maintain basic hygiene and disposal records.

3. How to Store UCO Safely Before Sale

Clean storage improves pricing and compliance.

✓ Use Proper Containers

- Food-grade HDPE drums
- Steel or aluminium containers
- Leak-proof, tightly sealed cans

✓ Keep Away From:

- Water contamination
- Food waste
- Chemicals or detergents
- Excess heat & sunlight

✓ Label Clearly

Write:

- “Used Cooking Oil”
- Date of collection

- Batch details (optional but helps with traceability)

This aligns with **RUCO collection standards**.

4. How to Transport UCO Legally

Follow simple CPCB-aligned practices:

- Transport only in **sealed drums**
- Prevent leaks during loading/unloading
- Maintain a basic record (invoice/challan)
- Ensure the transporter knows the material

For large quantities, use covered vehicles to protect against heat and contamination.

5. How Pricing Works (Maximizing Profit)

UCO price depends on:

- ✓ **Purity (low moisture & food particles = higher rate)**
- ✓ **Free Fatty Acid (FFA) levels**
- ✓ **Volume available**
- ✓ **Regional demand**
- ✓ **Transport distance**

Tip: Filter out solids before storing. Clean UCO can fetch **5–15% higher prices**.

BioTradX helps sellers compare offers from multiple verified buyers to get the best price.

6. How to Sell UCO on BioTradX (Fast & Compliant)

Step 1: Register as a Seller

Add basic business details and GST (if applicable).

Step 2: Create a Listing

Provide:

- Quantity
- Expected price
- Storage condition (optional)
- Pickup/Delivery preference

Step 3: Upload QC (if requested by buyers)

A simple **photo of UCO drums** or **Quality Report** boosts buyer confidence.

Step 4: Receive Quotes

Verified biodiesel plants, aggregators, and traders will send offers.

Step 5: Accept the Best Quote

BioTradX locks the agreed price & quantity to prevent disputes.

Step 6: Get Paid Via Escrow

Payment is secured until goods are picked up/received.
No risk of non-payment or fraudulent buyers.

7. Compliance Checklist for UCO Sellers (Quick Reference)

- Don't reuse oil beyond FSSAI limits
- Store UCO in sealed, food-grade drums
- Maintain basic batch records
- Sell only to authorized buyers
- Use compliant transport (sealed containers)
- Share QC when required
- Use secure digital payments (BioTradX Escrow)

This ensures **full legal compliance** and maximizes profitability.

8. Why UCO Trade Is Profitable Today

- Rising demand for biodiesel in India
- Government push for cleaner fuels
- Large buyers offering competitive pricing
- Zero input cost for UCO generators
- Digital platforms like BioTradX helping with transparent discovery & payments

Final Takeaway

Legal, clean, and traceable UCO can fetch **high, stable prices** in India's growing biofuel sector.

By following FSSAI guidelines, proper storage, and using BioTradX for transparent trade and payment protection, sellers can turn everyday kitchen waste into a **reliable revenue stream**.

