

Industry Statement on Pesticide Exports from Europe

The health and safety of consumers and pesticide users remains our industry's highest priority. This is true wherever pesticides are made, wherever they are used and wherever the food produced is eaten. CropLife International members expect their products to be closely regulated. They are, and our members follow both the letter and the spirit of strict regulatory standards and rules. CropLife International members take responsibility to conduct risk assessments for the products sold, in line with the FAO/WHO Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.

Some pesticides are not authorised for use in the EU but have important uses elsewhere in the world. One size does not fit all — agriculture, pest, and diseases are different across regions and countries. Pesticides are not automatically “more hazardous” or “less necessary” because they are not authorised in Europe.

National regulators around the world decide which pesticides can be used on their territory. Where regulation is less developed, CropLife International members support its introduction based on the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.

There is no legal “loophole” for the export of pesticides from Europe; there is strict EU regulation aligned with the UN Rotterdam Convention of exports which is enforced properly and which CropLife International and its members support. European exporters must supply their national regulators with information about certain chemical exports, including some pesticides. International law also ensures importing countries receive relevant safety information on imported substances and can refuse imports of some substances.

We welcome a constructive and informed debate on the role of crop protection and the use of pesticides in sustainable food production. CropLife International member companies invest in research and development to develop ever better and safer products to ensure farmers have access to crop protection products which meet society's needs. We address pesticide safety in partnership with governments, farmers, NGOs and other stakeholders and we will continue this collaboration. We can, and will always, strive to do more.

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