

---

## **New Milestones Reached in Product Stewardship for Sustainable Agriculture**

- *Total recorded training of 20 million farmers in 2022*
- *140,000 tonnes of packaging taken out of the environment in 2022 through stewardship actions*

**Brussels, 19 March 2024:** New figures released today by plant science trade association CropLife International show a record total outreach of trainings within its stewardship program of 20 million by year end 2022. This represents a doubling in the training reach in the last three years.

Opening their Festival of Stewardship today, the association also announced that a total of 140,000 tonnes of empty pesticide packaging was taken out of the environment as part of its stewardship outreach in 2022. A leader in agricultural plastic packaging management, over a million tonnes of plastic has been collected since 2005 through CropLife programs.

CropLife International's Festival of Stewardship is an annual event bringing together a broad array of stakeholders from across the globe to share experience and develop understanding of stewardship practices. These, in turn, help to improve the livelihoods of farming communities and strengthen food security whilst safeguarding health and the environment. Harmonized stewardship activities, delivered in the field by CropLife associations and partners and adapted to suit different situations, is a life-cycle approach from the discovery and development of new active ingredients through to their use and the final disposal of any waste.

Opening the event with a keynote address, CropLife International Chair Livio Tedeschi of BASF said "CropLife International plays a vital role in stewardship by harmonizing best practices and working to tackle industry-wide issues. As no one isolated party can meet the challenge of bringing stewardship principles to all stakeholders involved, collaborations are critical for scale-up, outreach and credibility." Emily Rees, President and CEO of the association, added "I'm proud to be presenting a picture of such tangible progress. From pest management to risk management through to waste disposal, every action under our stewardship programs is designed to enhance the security and productivity of the farmers and their lands. And these are relatively new programs with great ambition. There's so much more to come."

The Festival of Stewardship 2024 runs 19-20 March. For more information on stewardship activities and programs visit [Promoting Stewardship](#).

**About CropLife International:** As a global voice and leading advocate for the plant science industry, we champion innovative technologies that help farmers grow more food on less land sustainably. We represent six of the world's leading multinational R&D companies in the plant science sector by protecting intellectual property to foster a culture of innovation, advocating for trade and regulatory policies that facilitate access to new technologies, and ensuring the responsible and effective use of plant science innovations.

For further information, please contact

Virginia Lee

Director of Communications

[virginia.lee@croplife.org](mailto:virginia.lee@croplife.org)