

23 March, 2011

## **CropLife extends recommended spraying times for banana growers following Cyclone Yasi**

Last month's Cyclone Yasi severely disrupted banana production in North Queensland. Even growers who aggressively pruned their banana trees to protect them have suffered differing degrees of damage, depending on their location.

In the worst affected areas, banana trees have had to be re-established and consequently the normal spraying times for crop protection products have been delayed.

On behalf of the crop protection industry, CropLife Australia annually reviews and provides resistance management strategies for a range of products on a variety of crops, including bananas. The purpose of these strategies is to delay the development of diseases that are resistant to the products and thereby extend the life of these vital farming tools.

The current resistance management strategy for the application of Group 11 fungicides in bananas recommends that growers do not apply Group 11 sprays from the start of May until the end of September. Due to the disrupted growing season in 2011, CropLife has modified the Banana Resistance Management Strategy (Tropics) to allow banana growers to use these fungicides **during the month of May 2011**, provided they continue to implement the other elements of the resistance management strategy.

The Banana (Tropics) Resistance Management Strategy can be viewed [here](#).

<Ends>

### **Contact:**

Thomas Whitty  
Communications & Campaigns Officer  
CropLife Australia Limited  
Ph: 02 6230 6399

### **About CropLife Australia**

CropLife Australia is the peak industry organisation representing the agricultural chemical and biotechnology (plant science) sector in Australia. CropLife represents the innovators, developers, manufacturers, formulators and registrants of crop protection and agro-biotechnology products. The plant science industry provides products to protect crops against pests, weeds and diseases, as well as developing crop biotechnologies that are key to the nation's agricultural productivity, sustainability and food security. The plant science industry is worth more than \$1.5 billion a year to the Australian economy and directly employs thousands of people across the country.

CropLife member companies spend more than \$13 million a year on stewardship activities to ensure the safe use of their products on the environment and human health. CropLife ensures the responsible use of these products through its industry code of conduct and has set a benchmark for industry stewardship through programs such as **drumMUSTER**, ChemClear<sup>®</sup> and Agsafe Accreditation and Training.