



MEDIA RELEASE

INNOVATIVE NEW TOOL HELPS FARMERS ACCESS CRUCIAL ADVICE FOR RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICE

30 November 2015 (Canberra) – Farmers, environmental land managers and other agricultural chemical users will now find it easier than ever to access CropLife Australia's 2015 Resistance Management Strategies for fungicides, herbicides and insecticides with the introduction of an innovative new web tool designed to improve access to the strategies. The new website functionality allows users to search through Research Management Strategies by keywords, or to select to view strategies based on categories such as crop, pest or type of product.

"Access to the most up-to-date and accurate advice on how to use crop protection products responsibly and sustainably is crucial for farmers," said Matthew Cossey, Chief Executive Officer of CropLife Australia. "The new web tool will allow farmers to quickly search and locate the relevant world's best-practice strategies to provide crucial and timely advice on managing pests, weeds and disease in crops sustainably."

"This investment is just another example of CropLife Australia and its member's genuine commitment to world-leading industry stewardship initiatives to ensure the ongoing sustainability of Australia's agriculture industry. Each year CropLife distributes Resistance Management Strategies developed by scientific technical review committees made up of CropLife's members with expert knowledge on the use of fungicides, herbicides and insecticides.

"The plant science industry invests considerable resources and hundreds of millions of dollars into research and development of products to ensure economically viable and environmentally sustainable crop protection solutions that are most effective when used for registered purposes and in accordance to approved labels.

"This commitment extends to the responsible and ethical management of industry products throughout their lifecycle. This includes ensuring that agricultural chemical users have all the information they need on how to prevent pesticide resistance and use products in a way that protects themselves, their farms and the local community," said Mr Cossey.

"CropLife Australia members also contribute millions of dollars annually in industry stewardship activities including Agsafe's **drumMUSTER**, ChemClear® and Accreditation and Training programs. Agsafe is CropLife Australia's wholly owned subsidiary and its programs were established and initially funded by CropLife member companies to ensure the highest standards of safety and environmental stewardship of the industries products.

"Australian farmers have a proud tradition of embracing world-class farming practices to manage resistance and get the best value for money. Pests, weeds and insects are a constant threat to our nation's food, feed and fibre production. CropLife's easy-to-access strategies equip farmers with methods to ensure they maintain the effectiveness and extend the life of crucial farming tools. Following CropLife's Resistance Management Strategies can help farmers prevent loss of future crops, income, and damage to their land," Mr Cossey concluded.

The [Resistance Management Strategies web tool](http://www.croplife.org.au) is available at the CropLife Australia website www.croplife.org.au

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About CropLife Australia

CropLife Australia (CropLife) is the peak industry organisation representing the agricultural chemical and biotechnology (plant science) sector in Australia. CropLife represents the innovators, developers, manufacturers and formulators of crop protection and agricultural 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 \$17.6 billion a year to the Australian economy and directly employs thousands of people across the country. CropLife and its members are committed to the stewardship of their products throughout their lifecycle and to ensuring that human health, environment and trade issues associated with agricultural chemical use in Australia are responsibly and sustainably managed. Our member companies contribute more than \$13 million a year to stewardship activities to ensure the safe and effective use of their products. CropLife ensures the responsible use of these products through its mandatory industry code of conduct and has set a benchmark for industry stewardship through programs such as **drumMUSTER**, ChemClear® and Agsafe Accreditation and Training. Our stewardship activities demonstrate our commitment to managing the impacts associated with container waste and unwanted chemicals.

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