



MEDIA RELEASE

ONE-STOP-SOURCE FOR BEST-PRACTICE SPRAY DRIFT MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

25 November 2016 (Canberra) – Australian farmers and spray contractors will now have access to CropLife Australia's MyAgCHEMUSE, a best practice reference guide that provides the most up-to-date advice and tools to help manage spray drift and ensure the safe and effective use of crop protection products.

The spray drift reference guide is part of CropLife Australia's suite of award-winning stewardship programs which aims to foster the responsible and sustainable use of crop protection products throughout their lifecycle, helping to extend the life of these vital farming tools, and ensuring the protection of human and environmental health.

"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. "Australian farmers are excellent stewards of their land and now more than ever need to continue to deliver market and community confidence through best practice crop protection product use and demonstrated stewardship. This initiative continues CropLife and our member companies long standing and world recognised commitment to whole-of-life-cycle product stewardship."

"Crop protection products are used to control the many pests and diseases on farms, national parks and reserves that challenge farmers and environmental land managers daily. The application of crop protection products, whether from a ground boom sprayer, knapsack or the air, needs to be properly planned and carefully executed to minimise the risk of off-target chemical movement."

"MyAgCHEMUSE is a one-stop-source for farmers and growers to help them use crop protection products safely and effectively. It also works to complement other stewardship initiatives that are part of our StewardshipFirst program, such as the Seed Treatment Guide and the international award winning BeeConnected app."

"CropLife is proud to have partnership support for MyAgCHEMUSE from organisations that represent farmers and growers across Australia including Aerial Application Association of Australia, AgForce, Cotton Australia, Grain Producers Australia, Northern Territory Farmers Association, NSW Farmers' Association, Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA, Queensland Farmers' Federation and Western Australian Farmers Federation."

"CropLife recognises that it is essential to provide the latest stewardship information and techniques to farmers and other crop protection product users so their business operations keep up-to-date with world's best practice."

"CropLife Australia members 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 industry's products."

"Australian farmers have a proud tradition of embracing world-class farming practices. Pests, weeds and diseases are a constant threat to our nation's food, feed and fibre production. Best practice reference guides, such as this, equip farmers with advice and tools to ensure they maintain the effectiveness of crucial crop protection products."

"The purpose of these guides is to foster the responsible and sustainable use of crop protection products, thereby assisting in the safe and proper use and also extending the life of these vital farming tools, which are crucial to the economic and environmental sustainability of Australian agriculture," Mr Cossey concluded.

MyAgCHEMUSE is available to download on the CropLife Australia website which can be accessed here:

www.croplife.org.au/myagchemuse

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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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