



MEDIA RELEASE

APPOINTMENT OF APVMA CEO

15 NOVEMBER 2017 (Canberra) – CropLife Australia welcomes today’s announcement of the appointment of Dr Chris Parker as Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

Mr Matthew Cossey, Chief Executive Officer of the plant science sector’s national peak industry organisation, CropLife Australia, said the appointment of a permanent CEO of the APVMA during this challenging time is critically important to the plant science industry and the Australian agricultural sector more broadly.

“Dr Parker comes to this role with the skills and experience that should ensure the APVMA operates at a standard expected by industry, the agricultural sector and the Australian community,” said Mr Cossey.

“The permanent appointment to this role is crucial to ensuring an efficient agricultural chemical regulator which improves its performance significantly while managing the many challenges ahead. An efficient, independent, scientifically competent and evidence-based regulator is critical to ensuring farmers have access to crucial agricultural innovations and tools. The community must be able to have full confidence in Australia’s regulation of these essential products.”

“Meeting its legislated timeframes through improving operational efficiency and bringing cost overruns under control are key priorities for the APVMA.”

“We look forward to working constructively with Dr Parker to deliver much-needed performance improvements that will provide Australian farmers with the critical tools they need to sustainably, safely and internationally competitively produce more food, feed and fibre,” concluded Mr Cossey.

Contact: Jaelle Bajada (Director – Corporate Affairs) Ph: 02 6273 2733 Mob : 0410 491 261

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.

