The responsible use of pesticides is a shared responsibility. Which part are you responsible for?
CropLife Latin America is an international nonprofit trade organization, representing the Crop Science Industry; it comprises seven companies and a network of associations in 18 countries of the region.
Illegal pesticides represent a high impact crime

Illegal pesticides threaten health, affect the environment, destroy crops and cause economic losses. No country escapes. According to United Nations calculations, the problem exceeds 15% of the world agrochemical trade.

Criminal sanctions are not a deterrent

When compared to other offenses, the criminal prosecution and effective sanction in the agrochemical trade are not a threat to the criminals. The minimum penalties, if any, can be easily accounted for as an operating cost of the illegal activities. The lack of resources, specialized police, prosecutors, or the lax courts and legislation contribute to the problem. It is necessary that Latin American governments commit soon to structural policies that combat illegality in agricultural inputs as it is not a misdemeanor. Whoever buys, sells, transports or manufactures illegal pesticides threatens health, the environment and the safe production of food. In addition, they jeopardize the agricultural exports and tax collection of their country.

While the regulatory frameworks and the control and surveillance capacities are strengthened, it is essential that the police, customs, prosecutors, regulators, legislators and farmers resort to the available means, to stop and prevent the sale of counterfeit and illegal pesticides before they reach the crops. That is what the authorities in Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico are doing with information campaigns, training of control personnel, enabling hotlines, and in general, with more efficient control and surveillance measures.

From the perspective of farmers and distributors it is necessary that they understand the direct and indirect adverse effects of illegal pesticides, and refrain from contributing to their proliferation. They must “Know their Supplier” and ensure that it complies with all the legal requirements. The application of an effective security program such as “Know your Customer”, guarantees that one is not transporting illegal merchandise, nor selling containers or labels to counterfeiters.

These programs should become the commercial standard of the 21st century for responsible and ethical carriers, businesses and traders.

No less important is the role that belongs to society in general, which needs to promote from its homes, schools, training centers and universities the benefits of a culture of legality as an essential factor for development. In addition, the image of the countries and their exports are put at risk, as well as the reputation of certified farmers who meet the requirements of their markets.

We must keep in mind that these are illegal substances that can affect our health, our soils, our crops and our food. We need to inform ourselves: the illegal trade in pesticides is a high-impact crime.

CropLife Latin America and its network of Associations are committed to fight together against this crime.
Behind every pesticide, there is a strict process of national regulation, control, and surveillance

Pesticides are subject to surveillance from multiple authorities in each country. Before entering market, agrochemicals are tested in order to obtain a registration or permit to be sold. Once in the market, authorities permanently monitor the product’s use.

MRLs events in Latin America

CropLife Latin America participated in various events where the main topics were the standardization, setting, and acceptance of Maximum Residue Limits, MRL.

- Third Global Minor Use Summit in Montreal, Canada.
- Maximum Residue Limit, MRL, Workshop – NAFTA, in Mexico.
- VI Latin American Pesticide Residues Congress in Costa Rica.

MEXICO
Guidelines for MRLs
Mexico issued a policy that establishes technical guidelines and procedures for the authorization and revision of Maximum Pesticide Residue Limits, MRLs. The new law requires dialogue between authorities and companies for an effective operation.

CENTRAL AMERICA
Regional labeling
A policy for a regional labeling system which will standardize the processes and labels throughout Central America was approved. This policy will make international trade easier, and, at the same time, improve consumer’s understanding of the labels. This policy was voluntarily adopted by Belize and Dominican Republic.

Updated registration system
Costa Rica approved a new registration protocol, which incorporates up-to-date elements to resolve Costa Rica’s 10 year lag in registration.

ANDEAN REGION
Andean Technical Manual Update
During 2017, the Andean Region focused on following up on the Andean Technical Manual 630 update, being discussed by the government of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. Pesticide residues, labeling, and environmental management plans were some of the topics covered in the agenda with Andean region authorities.

BRAZIL
In Brazil ANVISA public consultations aiming to introduce cut-off criteria for toxicological evaluations within pesticides regulation have not concluded.

SOUTHERN Cone
How to mitigate the risk?
During 2017, we developed training materials on risk mitigation for authorities in Paraguay as our industry’s contribution towards rational pesticide management. These resources are the groundwork for upcoming online courses on risk management in Latin America.

The Maximum Residue Limits, MRLs, are a constant concern for producers and exporters in the region. Regulatory policies in the European Union, such as the definition criteria regarding endocrine disruptors, resonate in Latin America. In 2017, a regulatory proposal on definition criteria regarding endocrine disruptors promoted by the European Commission was rejected by the European Parliament. New decisions in Europe will have a direct effect on trade in Latin America in 2018.

Costa Rica approved the reproduction of cotton seeds with stacked traits resistant to herbicides and insects, and a single event resistant to insects. Honduras published their Committee for Biosafety and GMO Approval formalization procedures.
The responsible use of pesticides is a shared and extended responsibility. Which part are you responsible for?

Responsibility as a farmer:
- Inform yourself, stay up to date, and design an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM).
- If your agronomist suggests using chemical control on the crops...
- When using the products...
- Purchase original products from an authorized distributor; safety transport and store the products.
- Protect yourself by using the Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). Read and follow the instructions on the label.
- Preferably, spray the mix when there is no rain or wind.
- Once you are done...
- Triple rinse the empty containers and take them to the nearest collection center.

Responsibility as:
- Governments – municipal, regional, and national authorities: Regulate the availability, distribution, and usage of pesticides in your respective country.
- Industry and pesticide distributors/dealers: Promote and support the responsible use of pesticides, which includes a responsible and proper final disposal of the container. Design and distribute resources about Good Agricultural Practices, GAPs.
- Governments, Pesticide Industry, and Pesticide Application Equipment Industry: Develop and promote equipment that reduce to the minimum acceptable possible health and environmental risks.
- Everyone
  - Governments
  - Universities
  - Agricultural consultants
  - Agricultural extensionists
  - Food industry
  - Farmers, growers, and their associations
  - Pesticide manufacturers
  - Pesticide application equipment manufacturers
  - Civil Society

The participation of every institution and individual involved in the responsible use of agrochemicals is a key factor to advance towards a sustainable agriculture, while also being a mandate by the Food and Agriculture Organization’s, FAO, International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management.
365 days of good agricultural practices in Latin America

With our programs CuidAgro® and CampoLimpio™ we continued this year with the training and formation in the responsible handling of agrochemicals. In 2017 the National Associations affiliated to CropLife Latin America made significant progress in finding partners to promote best practices in the agricultural chain.

Argus in the cloud

Argus is the software that we developed to suit the requirements of CuidAgro® and CampoLimpio™ in Latin America. Argus facilitates the monitoring of the responsible pesticide use projects from the presentation of the proposals, to their approval, execution and closure. In 2017 the Network of National Associations presented through Argus 26 proposals of Good Agricultural Practices, GAPs.

In 2017
21 GAPs projects were approved 100% of the projects include co-financing from third parties

CREATIVITY FOR GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

BPA Maratón

A marathon, contests, spots on radio and innovation in the tutoring that is imparted to farmers, are some of the strategies that the National Associations implemented to promote better habits on the farm.

LATIN AMERICA GLOBAL HOST

Sao Paulo, Brazil hosted the global meeting on Management of Empty Pesticide Containers in 2017. Those responsible for the CampoLimpio program exchanged experiences and analyzed the strategies to seek sustainable solutions to the final disposal of the containers used in the field.

WHAT IS YOUR PERCEPTION OF CUIDAGRO® AND CAMPOLIMPIO?

With this question, farmers, exporters, universities, and authorities from various countries in Latin America concluded that these programs are not only necessary, but that they must be strengthened. They invited the industry to develop new materials about pesticide application techniques and resistance management.

Their dialogue and cooperation are key to the health of bees

A new online course, a video, posters, and scientific articles devoted to promote the cooperation between farmers and beekeepers to protect pollinators were some of the materials that we developed in 2017. #Findout in www.croplifeLA.org
Communications to connect the city with the ag sector

We generated and maintained a dialogue with agricultural experts and with urban audiences for whom agriculture is an unknown and distant activity. The imaginary of the city facing the farmer and agriculture are in many countries crossed by strong prejudices and ignorance. #Participate in ElAgricultorPrimero.org

“Urban life is privileged, as if the city was the ideal and the countryside takes a shameful nuance.”

“The concept of a farmer in people’s imagination has become obsolete and should be reconsidered.”

Farmers are present every day of your life, even if you do not see them. Recognize their work.

25,000 Friends

220,000 Followers in social networks

The informative and pedagogical strategy to position the farmer as a food supplier and gain recognition of his effort in the city progressed. Our YouTube channel has more than 50 videos about what the city thinks and knows of farmers which is little and points to the need for more education. #Join

NEW VIRTUAL COURSE

The platform of virtual courses offered by CropLife Latin America and the articles about pests and climate change are the preferred content for our audience. This year we launched the virtual course on Good Agricultural and Beekeeping Practices for the Health of Pollinators, we updated the one on Biological Beds and we are working on a course on Biotechnology which will be launched in the first months of 2018.

Providing information on the control of pests that threaten crops and cities and demystifying urban myths about pesticides or agrochemicals is the goal of Plaguicidas.Info, a website that in 2017 reached more than 20,000 readers, mostly women. #Recommend

Young people are trained at www.croplifea.org

Since 2010

10,000 people have been trained
#UpdateYourself

FORUM ALLIANCE OF THE PACIFIC, OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURE IN LATIN AMERICA

To empower farmers and expand the vision of Latin America as an agricultural power, on April 25 we held this forum in the city of Cali, Colombia. More than 350 attendees had the opportunity to know about:

• The success story of a Peruvian agro-export company.
• The learnings of a Colombian entrepreneur who, against all odds, produces seedless grapes.
• The efforts to build a State policy on food safety in Chile.
• The opportunities offered by the Asia Pacific region for agriculture in Latin America.
It’s easy to say NO to counterfeit and illegal pesticides

Illegal pesticides pose risks to human health and the environment, can cause irreparable losses in crops, have a direct impact on farmers’ economies and affect international food trade.

CropLife Latin America recommends to farmers and distributors the implementation of controls and monitoring processes, so that they know their customers and make sure they comply with national regulations and are not doing business with the chain of illegality.

The successful fight against counterfeiting and illegal trade in pesticides requires the cooperation of the authorities, supply chain, farmers, stakeholders and industry. Here are some of the recommendations of CropLife Latin America to strengthen the fight against this crime:

**FARMERS**
- Get to know your suppliers, verify that they act in legality.
- Demand the invoice with data and description of the seller and the product.
- Do not buy illegally or illegal products.
- Report illegal acts, without compromising your personal safety.

**DISTRIBUTORS**
- Identify and verify that your suppliers and your customers act in legality.
- Verify that the chemical products are labeled and accurately described in transportation documents.
- Do not buy illegally or illegal products.

**REGULATORY AUTHORITIES**
- Promote and spread the laws that punish illegal trade.
- Strengthen and update the regulatory frameworks.
- Implement oversight programs in the market.
- Facilitate citizen reporting mechanisms.

**ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES**
- Investigate, prosecute and detain criminals who traffic in illegal pesticides.
- Confiscate counterfeit, contraband and adulterated products.
- Learn to identify illegal agrochemicals.
- Obtain information about suspicious trade routes, money flows, etc.
- Cooperate with other local and international authorities.

**MANUFACTURERS**
- Implement illegal pesticide detection tools such as spectrometer scanners.
- Offer training to farmers, distributors and authorities to prevent illegal trade of pesticides.
- Support information platforms that facilitate reporting.
- Seek partnerships for the storage and proper disposal of seized illegal pesticides.

In 2017, at CropLife Latin America we advanced with the firm intention of showing that illegal trade in pesticides is a high-impact crime. In partnership with global and regional organizations such as INTERPOL, REACT and the World Customs Organization we conducted 17 workshops. We reached 300 law enforcement officers who learned how to identify illegal pesticides.

As a result of the joint work between national authorities and CropLife Latin America affiliated associations, several awareness-raising seminars were organized with distributors, farmers, customs, highway police and complaint lines were established.

These advances in the fight against illegal trade in the region were achieved with the support of CAFYF in Paraguay, CAMAGRO in Uruguay, AFPA in Bolivia, AFPA in Chile, SINDVEG in Brazil, AGREQUIMA in Guatemala and PROCCYT in Mexico.

DO NOT be fooled by illegal agrochemicals, DENOUNCE, identify illegal pesticides. Say NO to the illegal trade in pesticides: these were some of the messages that were multiplied in the region through videos, radio spots, road billboards and posters.
LEARN WITH CROPLIFE LATIN AMERICA'S ONLINE COURSE PLATFORM

Learn about Good Agricultural Practices and promote sustainable agriculture.

SIX FREE AVAILABLE COURSES

- FAO Code
- Life Cycle of a Pesticide
- Campo Limpio
- Biobeds
- Pollinators
- Biotechnology

Register at www.croplifela.org