

ANTI-COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES PROTECT INNOVATION, HUMAN HEALTH & BIODIVERSITY

Counterfeit and illegal pesticides are a growing problem for the plant science industry, discouraging innovation and presenting serious risks to farmers, the environment, and economies.

CropLife International members undertake rigorous testing and regulation of any new products to ensure they are safe for farmers and the environment. In a well-regulated market, crops treated with illegal pesticides stop at the farm gate.

THREATS FROM ILLEGAL PESTICIDES



ENVIRONMENT: Counterfeit and illegal pesticides, often with unknown ingredients, are **not tested** for environmental safety, while **legal pesticides** are **extensively tested** to show they are **safe** for wildlife and the environment before they are approved by regulatory authorities.



HEALTH: Illegal pesticides pose a **risk to the health** of farm workers during the application of the product, and medical treatment when exposed to **unknown chemicals** can be problematic for medical professionals and poison control hotlines.



ECONOMY: Counterfeit pesticides disrupt investment, employment, innovation, and tax revenues. If a region or country is known for using counterfeit pesticides, it may become difficult for them to export their crops, putting both their reputation and **economic security** at **risk**.

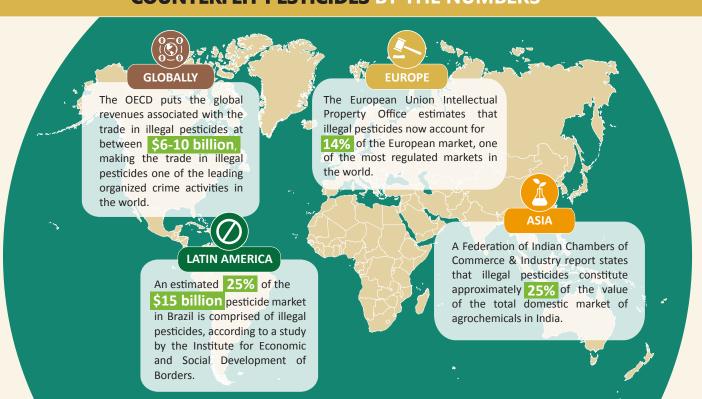


REGULATORY: Anecdotal evidence shows that banning pesticides does not remove their availability, but rather creates an **illegal black market** for the **banned pesticide**, providing **organized crime** an opportunity to sell **dangerous**, **untested illegal** banned pesticides to farmers.



FARMER LIVELIHOODS: The use of **illegal pesticides** could cause **economic ruin** for the farmer and potential **loss of harvest** due to the use of an ineffective or **damaging counterfeit product.**

COUNTERFEIT PESTICIDES BY THE NUMBERS



CropLife Y

ACTIVITY ACROSS THE CROPLIFE GLOBAL NETWORK

Given the many negative consequences of counterfeit and illegal pesticides, CropLife International partners with stakeholders such as the OECD, UN, FAO, Interpol, Europol, the World Customs Organization, and national police and customs officers to enforce intellectual property rights and ensure only legal authentic crop protection products are traded, sold, and used. Successful activities to date include awareness raising campaigns, customs agent trainings, and collaborating with law enforcement, resulting in seizures of illegal pesticides and arrests of counterfeiters.



Sources

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