SUMMER 2020/21

CropLinks

THE LATEST PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY NEWS

Glyphosate is crucial for more than farming

The Invasive Species Council has released a new report seeking to quell the myths about the popular herbicide glyphosate.

Glyphosate: A Chemical to Understand was authored by Tim Low, a well-renowned ecologist and author of articles and books on nature and conservation.

The report highlights concerns that science is being ignored when it comes to assessing the safety and efficacy of the chemical and politically motivated decisions about the future use of glyphosate could be to the detriment of native environments. Mr Low states, "Glyphosate is the main chemical used to control environmental weeds in Australia, so a ban would have serious consequences for nature conservation."

The report makes the important point that the potential danger of a chemical can be looked at through a hazard assessment, ie. Is it capable of causing harm, or a risk assessment, ie. Under what conditions would it cause harm. While the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) added glyphosate to its list of 'probable carcinogens' in 2015, IARC flags hazards only.

It is not a regulatory agency and does not undertake any research of its own. Rather, it plays a role by advising regulatory bodies of potential hazards which allows them to assess for any associated risks so they can be managed.

While many associate weedkillers with commercial agriculture, thousands of Landcare and Bushcare volunteers across Australia also rely on glyphosate-based herbicides in their conservation work.

Australia is globally recognised for its national parks and native flora and fauna. Our picturesque environment is enjoyed by locals and international visitors alike. The pristine status of these environments is at risk through invasive species such as the blackberry bush. Uncontrolled, it can spread rapidly, destroying the native flora and compromising the natural ecosystem.

Tools like glyphosate are crucial to controlling invasive weeds. Without the use of specialised pesticide products and the work of park rangers, spray contractors and other environmental land managers, many ecosystems would succumb to the significant threat of invasive weeds.

*Invasive Species Council (2020). Glyphosate: A Chemical to Understand. Invasive Species Council. Fairfield, Victoria, Australia.

Facts about glyphosate

Glyphosate is one of the most widely used herbicides in the world. It revolutionised farming when it came on the market in the mid 1970s because of how effective and safe it is.

Glyphosate is a broad-spectrum herbicide which works by inhibiting an enzyme plants need to be able to grow.

Glyphosate has a lesser acute toxicity than table salt. More than 800 scientific studies and independent safety assessments support the fact that glyphosate-based products are safe and they do not cause cancer.

Before any agricultural chemical product can be sold or manufactured in Australia, it goes through rigorous scientific assessment by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

In 2016 the APVMA examined glyphosate and found there were no grounds for its approved uses to be reconsidered.

Every independent, science-based regulatory agency globally (including; Germany,New Zealand, Canada, the US, Japan and the European Union) has comprehensively evaluated glyphosate and found it safe to use.

Inside this issue

REPRESENTING THE BEST OF THE PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY

CropLife Australia

THE LATEST PLANT SCIENCE INDUSTRY NEWS

Matthew Cossey
Chief Executive Officer, CropLife Australia

From the CEO

Through the uncertainties of 2020, the importance of agriculture and food security has been reinforced for all Australians. The dedication and skill of the nation's farming sector has shone bright in these challenging times.

Agriculture is moving beyond just improving food security to underpinning our global ability to achieve UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A new generation of farmers, environmentalists and policy makers will help shape how agriculture will intersect with not just climate change, biodiversity and livelihoods, but also social rights including how agriculture can improve equity in the developing world.

Farmers are being challenged like never before to deliver higher yields with less resources, produce more nutritious foods and improve existing agricultural methods and practices. All this while facing unprecedented droughts, floods and bushfires – not to mention a global pandemic. Our system still needs to evolve to support innovation and to give farmers access to all the tools they need to produce our food, feed and fibre. Otherwise, Australia will fall behind, and we will miss out on crucial developments.

Food in the developed world is safer now than at any time in human history, yet consumers are still easily led astray by activists' narrow, false and self-serving agendas. This, in turn, poses the risk of Parliamentarians responding to that ignorance to the detriment of not just farming, but the community at large – because, of course, we all need to eat.

The challenge here is, how do we ensure that the Australian community recognise that the nation's farmers are world's best practice growers and producers and their ability to remain so requires access to new safe ag innovations such as GM and gene edited crops and agricultural chemicals.

Our industry is continuing to invest billions of dollars in R&D every year to assist meeting the farming needs of the future. It is the responsibility and obligation of many, broader than the plant science sector, to fill the gap between the science and the public discourse and, most importantly, the science and the policy. We need to help consumers make their own choices, based on facts, not through fear or with a romanticised vision of agriculture.

For science to prevail, the world needs to be informed regarding the real challenges we face to feed a growing global population. There's a role in that for all of us.

All of mainland Australia can now grow genetically modified crops

South Australian growers can now join their mainland and global competitors in having access to genetically modified (GM) crops from next season.

The news comes after Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, the Hon David Basham MP, declared that all of mainland South Australia's farmers would be allowed to commercially cultivate the environmentally conscious crops.

This decision, which ends a thorough and open consultation process, is a win for farmers, for science and for a more productive, environmentally sustainable and profitable future for South Australian farming. The ultimate winners will be all South Australians, with the same economic benefits of GM crops experienced in other Australian states, to now flow through SA.

In line with the legislation, South Australian councils had six months to apply to remain GM-cultivation free if they could prove a trade or marketing advantage for doing so. The small number of councils who did apply did so on false premises, rather than on evidence, science and data.

What has been found is the GM status of a region does not impact on the trade and marketing of any other product or produce, including South Australia's world-renowned wine industry. It's the high-quality of South Australian produce and farming practices that afford them any premium prices they receive.

Coexistence between GM, non-GM and organic farms has been demonstrated for at least a decade in all other mainland Australian states and for several decades in many other countries.

GM crops have been enabling farmers in other states and around the world to improve yields, reduce carbon emissions, use natural resources and pesticides more sustainably and protect the soil through no-till farming for decades.

For over 20 years, approved genetically modified crops being grown around the world have resulted in 183 million hectares of land being saved from full tillage cropping. This has led to improved water storage, a significant reduction in soil erosion and native forests being saved from becoming agricultural production land. GM crops are responsible for savings in CO_2 emissions of 27 billion kg – the equivalent of removing 90 per cent of passenger cars registered in Australia from the road for one year.

With South Australia embracing this agricultural technology from next season, we will see significant environmental and agronomic benefits, allowing the farming sector in SA and nationally to continue to thrive.

Coexistence between GM, non-GM and organic farms has been demonstrated for at least a decade across Australia.

Crop Protection

Crop PROTECTION

Keeping the Barrier Reef great

The Great Barrier Reef is a spectacular, fragile and important World Heritage Area contributing over $5 billion annually to the Australian economy.

Recent inquiries examining the relationship that agricultural inputs such as pesticides have with the Reef, highlights the importance of stewardship initiatives for agricultural chemical products.

Stewardship programs ensure agricultural chemicals are being used responsibly and safely, and containers are recycled. This is important to avoid and minimise any off-target impacts on environments such as the Great Barrier Reef.

The final report from the Senate Inquiry into the *Identification of leading practices in ensuring evidence-based regulation of farm practices that impact water quality outcomes in the Great Barrier Reef*, identifies leading examples by the agriculture industry and encourages other input sectors to take inspiration and lessons from the pesticide industry for the best way to achieve environmental outcomes.

There is no question that crop protection products are crucial to modern integrated pest management techniques and systems used by farmers. Australian farmers need access to these innovations so they can continue to produce high-quality products that feed and clothe our nation, and meet our export responsibilities while protecting the health of users, consumers and the environment.

As highlighted in the report, the detection of a pesticide in an environment does not necessarily mean that a chemical would be posing a risk to the environment. Rather, risk is a product of the level of exposure through a component's concentration levels and duration of exposure.

CropLife and our members have a long history of working with governments, growers and farmer groups to deliver training programs and formal stewardship initiatives to ensure best practice and focus on continual improvement when it comes to agricultural chemicals.

Agsafe, CropLife's wholly-owned training organisation, facilitates waste management recycling collection programs, ***drum****MUSTER* for empty product containers and ChemClear® for obsolete or unwanted chemicals.

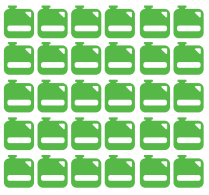
Across Australia these programs have collected and disposed of more than 36 million plastic chemical containers and 750,635 litres of obsolete or unwanted chemical. An impressive 38,000 tonnes have been recycled into re-usable products.

Agsafe has worked closely with the Queensland Government during natural disasters such as flooding to minimise the impact these natural disasters have on the Reef and prevent unintended pollution of the Reef during these times.

Global warming, and the climate change it drives, is the most serious and pervasive threat to the Reef. The updated Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan focuses on the recognition of the long-term systematic threat that climate change presents.

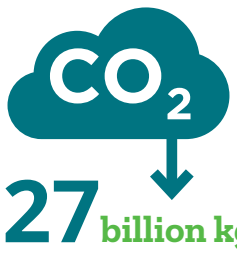
CropLife's StewardshipFirst program is a suite of whole-of-lifecycle initiatives and programs for the plant science industry's products.

StewardshipFirst™



Nearly 7 million containers and **119,290 litres** of obsolete chemicals have been collected in Queensland, from 171 collection sites.

Since being first commercially cultivated in 1996, genetically modified (GM) crops have contributed to global food security and sustainability. **GM crops reduced CO_2 emissions in 2018 alone by 27.1 billion kg*** – that's equivalent to taking 16.7 million cars off the road for one year.



As well as a commitment to reduce the state's carbon emissions by 30 per cent by 2030 and achieve zero net emissions by 2050, the Queensland Government has set a goal to strengthen collaboration and engagement with the scientific research sector. This will drive evidence-based technology and innovative solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the Reef.

Agricultural biotechnology is one of the tools governments must embrace to meet both these goals.

GM traits in development will assist farmers to combat drought, soil acidity and/or salinity, as well as emergent diseases. GM sugarcane is being developed by Australian and international research organisations and companies, including the University of Queensland and the CSIRO. Once available, these varieties will help improve water use efficiency and yield, while also improving profitability and sustainability by reducing input costs, like pesticides, due to varieties being resistant to pests and diseases.

Further support in this exciting field of research will ensure farmers have access to innovative new technologies for producing high-quality food, feed and fibre for Australia and the world while continuing to reduce the agricultural carbon footprint across the Reef catchment area.

* ISAAA (2019): Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2018: Biotech Crops Continue to Help Meet the Challenges of Increased Population and Climate Change. ISAAA Brief No. 54.

Measuring trust in rural industries

The Community Trust in Rural Industries project has been launched to understand the relationship between Australia's rural industries and the Australian community.

An initial survey of almost 6,500 Australians found that, unsurprisingly, expectations, views and experiences drive trust and acceptance in rural industries. The main drivers of trust identified were environmental responsibility, industry responsiveness and the value of rural industry products.

Sixty-five per cent of Australians felt farmers should find better ways to increase crop yields and control pests than using chemicals. However, the majority of community members also acknowledged the necessity of chemicals and fertilisers for farming. This highlights the complexity of these issues and the importance of promoting safe and responsible agricultural chemical use.

The project is being run by 11 Rural Research Development Corporations, the National Farmers' Federation and the NSW Department of Primary Industries using research powered by CSIRO.

* VoconiQ (2020): Community Trust in Australia's Rural Industries.

Visit voconiq.com/ctiri to find out more.

Protecting your plum pudding

Fruits and nuts are highly susceptible to a range of fungal diseases and insect pests. Thankfully, all of them can be effectively and sustainably managed with crop protection products developed by Australia's plant science industry.

Every year the commercial cultivation of $4.9 billion of fruits and nuts grown by Australian farmers couldn't be produced without the use of pesticides. In fact, $20.6 billion of all of Australia's agricultural output can be attributed to the use of crop protection products*.

The great work of Aussie farmers with the innovation of agricultural chemicals means you'll never need to experience a festive season without fresh Australian produce.

* Deloitte Access Economics (2018): Economic activity attributable to crop protection products.

Crop Biotechnology

Promoting science and evidence-based decision-making in the gene technology debate

The Agricultural Biotechnology Council of Australia (ABCA) recently launched the fourth edition of its *Official Australian Reference Guide to Agricultural Biotechnology and GM Crops*.

"In an increasingly alarming world of fake news, alternative facts, disinformation, disdain for experts, opinions trumping evidence, and blindly partisan position-taking, we need more reliable, accessible and factual inputs to public debate on matters of science," Chairman of ABCA, Ken Matthews AO, said.

Mr Matthews continued, "The world's population is growing quickly and is expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050. Food production will need to double to feed the world. Finding double the area of land for global crop production is simply not realistic, doubling inputs is not feasible and finding double the amount of water is impossible.

"Global agriculture needs to innovate; not simply duplicate and agricultural biotechnology is increasingly recognised as a critical part of the solution."

Also speaking at the launch were Matthew Cossey, CEO of CropLife Australia and Dr Caitlin Byrt, Research Group Leader with the Australian National University.

The Guide was developed in conjunction with an expert national scientific panel and world leading specialists in the field. It provides credible, balanced, science-based information on agricultural biotechnology to allow for informed decisions about the application, uses and future of agricultural biotechnology in Australia, and a better understanding of its benefits and safety.

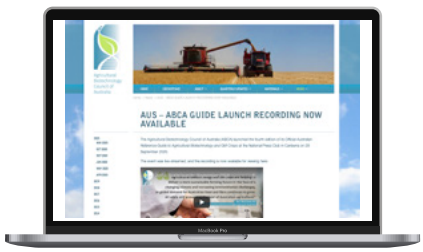
Now in its fourth edition, it has evolved to include the latest technology developments in agricultural biotechnology with a focus on the role gene-editing will play in agriculture and beyond.

The guide also follows the evolution of consumer attitudes, in Australia and globally, and gives voices to farmers who are the experts at growing what feeds our nation.

Mr Matthews highlighted the importance of the Australian agricultural sector and the need to change the way some people view agriculture. Mr Matthews said that, too often, agriculture is viewed as yesterday's industry, or worse – a legacy industry imposing environmental costs on a fragile Australian landscape.

"That's not the agriculture I know and care about. More and more Australian farms are capital intensive, R&D driven, environmentally conscious, nimble, technologically advanced, and entrepreneurial.

"This is the agriculture industry that exists and must be promoted. Just as people concerned about climate change urge us to listen to the science, so too should the science and evidence be front and centre in the gene technology debate."



Check out the Guide and a recording of the event at abca.com.au

Celebrating a local food hero on the international stage

Australian crop scientist Ian Godwin believes that genetically modified (GM) foods are "good enough to eat" and he's passionate about reassuring the public that science backs him up.

Last year he published a popular book on that topic in which he serves up an easily digested explanation of the science behind agricultural biotechnology and a peek at what the future might hold.

For Godwin, a professor in plant molecular genetics and director of the Centre for Crop Science at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, taste and safety are just two characters in the bigger GM sustainability story.

"I live and work in Australia, where our greatest challenge has always been water. Climate change for Australian farmers is already leading to hotter, drier conditions, and more unpredictability, which is going to make producing enough quality food even harder.

"Like all plant improvements, the seed is one of the most powerful ways to deliver technology. Plant biotechnology is part of that technological package. Delivering higher yields and better nutritional quality with less inputs is great when it comes to food security and sustainability."

Godwin says he got "hooked" on biotechnology while working on a GM sugar beet project during his post-doctoral work in the United Kingdom. He later pioneered the use of biotechnology in sorghum, adding value to this important and versatile livestock feed crop by developing varieties with larger grains, higher protein content, and improved digestibility. He's also investigating its use as a biofuel feedstock for arid environments.

He enjoys mentoring young scientists to help them achieve their full potential, while also advancing the next generation of GM crops. "Once all farmers have access, the benefits will be widely recognised," he predicts.

Professor Jennifer A. Doudna (left) Dr Emmanuelle Charpentier (right)

Nobel Prize for CRISPR leaders

Dr Emmanuelle Charpentier and Professor Jennifer Doudna, co-discoverers of CRISPR and turning it into a gene-editing tool, have won the 2020 Nobel Prize in chemistry.

The Prize recognises the ground-breaking impact their discovery has already had and will have in the future, both in medicine and agriculture. Over the last seven years, the technology has taken off incredibly quickly and is revolutionising research around the world. According to Doudna, agriculture is the area where gene-editing will have the quickest and widest global impact. From mushrooms that do not turn brown to plants that can resist drought, diseases or are more nutritious, the possibilities for using CRISPR to improve our food, feed and fibre are endless.

GM foods trending

If you've ever heard someone spruiking the benefits of GM crops, you've probably heard them call the technology game-changing, the way of the future, sustainable or productive. But trendy? Unlikely. Until now, that is.

The Pinkglow Pineapple has just been released by Del Monte Fresh Produce. It's been genetically modified through a change in enzymes to be sweeter and pinker than the good old pineapple we know and love.

The GM crop received approval from the FDA in 2016, after being found to be just as safe as non-GM pineapples. Grown in Costa-Rica, the fruit is now available to buy in the US. Instagram went wild for this pink produce, turning this GM stunner into a must-have trend.

Local food hero, Professor Ian Godwin, one of Australia's internationally recognised food heroes.

Industry Stewardship

Industry STEWARDSHIP

Striving for change in agricultural practice

CropLife Australia and its members are committed to reducing incidents of off-target spray practices and spray drift of agricultural chemicals.

That's why CropLife partnered with the Australian Ground Sprayers Association to produce SprayBest – a best practice guide for farmers, spray applicators and environmental land managers. The guide provides the latest advice and resources required for efficient spray application and effective spray drift management.

Crop protection products are crucial to modern integrated pest management techniques and systems. In Australia, the economic impact of weeds is estimated to be over $4.8 billion each year. It is critical that spray applicators, farmers and environmental land managers are properly equipped to use all registered crop protection products safely and responsibly.

The application of crop protection products, whether from a ground boom sprayer, knapsack or aerial platform, needs to be properly planned and carefully executed to minimise the risk of off-target chemical movement. The most common cause of off-target movement is spray drift.

Meaningful change in agricultural practice has been shown to result in improvements in on-target application efficiency and reduce the risk of pesticide drift occurring. However, management and minimisation of off-target spray drift is complex.

Stewardship programs such as SprayBest enable farmers to benefit from agricultural technologies, including innovative crop protection products and biotechnology, while ensuring the health of the environment in which they operate.

SprayBest supplements CropLife's best practice reference guide, MyAgCHEMuse, and is an integral part of SprayPASS, the Australian Ground Sprayers Association's stewardship program.

SprayBest is part of CropLife's StewardshipFirst program which is a suite of whole-of-lifecycle initiatives and programs for the plant science industry's products.

Find out more at our website **croplife.org.au/spraybest**

Beyond the bin with agvet containers

In November, Australia observed the 25th year of National Recycling Week, a week that provides an important opportunity for councils, workplaces, schools and individuals to improve their recycling knowledge, build better habits and trust in recycling.

drum*MUSTER*, part of CropLife's training organisation, Agsafe, has built trust over its 21 years of recycling agvet containers. The program continues to lead the recovery of plastic waste in the agricultural sector.

The theme for the 2020 Recycling Week was '*Recovery – A future beyond the bin*', a theme close to heart of ***drum****MUSTER* as one of the many products recycled agvet containers are made into, are wheelie bins. ***drum****MUSTER* has now recycled over 40,000 tonnes of plastic with more than 36 million agvet containers collected, a staggering number which if placed end to end would encircle the entire Australian coastline.

The program relies on the cooperation of chemical manufacturers, the efforts of farmers that bring in their used drums, and the many councils and community groups that hold container collections.

Working together, agvet containers are getting a second life. Truly, a future beyond the bin.

Wheelie bins are one of the many products recycled agvet containers are made into.

Ag industry gathers for COVID-safe Federal Budget Breakfast

Matthew Cossey with the Hon. David Littleproud MP at the Agricultural Industry Federal Budget Breakfast.

The Agricultural Industry Federal Budget Breakfast was able to go ahead for its tenth year, albeit in reduced COVID numbers, at the National Press Club in Canberra the morning after the Federal Budget was delivered.

National Rural Press Club President Lucy Barbour was the MC as Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, the Hon. David Littleproud MP, gave details of the budget commitment of $328 million for Australia's food and fibre exports.

This investment forms part of Ag 2030, the government's ongoing commitment to supporting the goal of Australian agriculture becoming a $100 billion industry by 2030. The announced measures are intended to make it faster and cheaper for farmers to get product to market, without diminishing quality.

CropLife Australia's Chief Executive Officer, Matthew Cossey, highlighted that the entire agriculture sector has delivered this year when the nation most needed it, as a global pandemic caused the single greatest disruption to global food supply.

He stressed that the last six months has magnified that farming does not happen in isolation.

"If we expect farmers to be able to do what they do best, it is equally crucial that the critical input and support services and industries that farmers need to grow our food, feed and fibre, remain available to the farming sector. This is something that the plant science industry – along with many others – continues to dedicate itself to," Mr Cossey said.

"This year's Federal Budget and the government's priorities, including those for the nation's agricultural sector, set the scene for the challenges and the focus that the Federal Government has in piloting the nation through strategic circumstances never before seen.

"The $100 billion agriculture industry goal set by the National Farmers' Federation is perhaps now even more important and we must ensure that the public policy settings and regulatory frameworks around ag are facilitating the achievement of this outcome," he said.

News and events

ADAMA

Motorbike riders and agricultural enthusiasts flocked to ADAMA Australia's 2-Wheel Trial Tour for the third year running.

The trial tour with a difference welcomed growers and agronomists from across the state to take in the sights of Western Australia's Great Southern region, as well as visiting a wide range of crop trials hosted by ADAMA and other industry partners.

BAYER

Over the past six years, $900,000 has been awarded to community organisations in cotton regions through the Aussie Cotton Farmers Growing Communities grants program. The program, which is supported by the Bayer Fund, has provided 180 grants of $5,000 each for projects including those supporting rural education, health and community infrastructure.

Recipients have included the Pittsworth Men's Shed who in 2019 used a grant to invest in a new computer system.

Nufarm

Nufarm Australia has launched a significant multi-media campaign across regional Australia – Australian Through & Through. The national brand campaign celebrates regional positivity and focus, reminding farmers, retailers and regional Australians about Nufarm's Australian credentials - Because they've never been more important.

"In Australia we are lucky to produce our own food and fibre. Australian farmers and regional towns are vital to Australia's economic recovery. In a year like no other, the 2020 harvest is predicted to be significantly above the 10-year average," said Peter O'Keeffe, Commercial General Manager – Nufarm Australia.

BASF
We create chemistry

The BASF Kids' Lab has sparked the imagination of over 3,000 primary school students this year, through a variety of simple, yet awe inspiring science experiments aimed at encouraging an interest in science from a young age.

The BASF Kids' Lab program pairs local primary schools with universities, hosting an educational session designed specifically for primary school students aged 8 – 12.

UPL OpenAg™

UPL has launched a podcast series to help kick the 'she'll be right' mentality to the curb and foster a healthier stigma around talking about mental health and wellbeing in rural Australia.

The 15-minute podcasts explore a new mentality, chatting to regional Australians who've worked through adversity and aren't afraid to 'talk the hard talk'. These are their stories, sharing new ideas and suggestions people can implement in their day-to-day life to overcome challenges or pick themselves up and keep moving forward.

Nutrien Ag Solutions™

On National Ag Day, Nutrien Ag Solutions™ announced its sponsorship of the national campaign to tell Australian farmers' stories. Nutrien Ag Solutions™, the new name for the combined Landmark and Ruralco businesses, contributed $500,000 to support the National Farmers' Federation's 'We Are Australian Farmers' campaign.

"We are proud to work every day with Australian farmers and graziers, who produce some of the best quality food and fibre in the world," said Rob Clayton, Nutrien Ag Solutions™ Managing Director.

Elders held their annual photo calendar competition earlier this year.

Congratulations to Luke Carrington from Carrington Cattle Company, Winton QLD, for taking out the coveted cover image spot with his photo titled 'Iconic Australia'.

FMC has generously donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service to aid rural communities in Queensland.

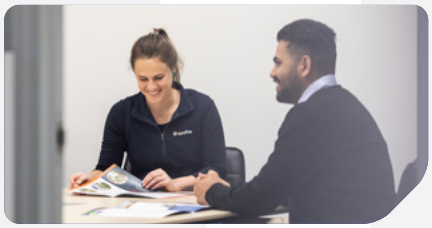
FMC Donated $50 for every tonne of selected herbicides sold between May and October 2020.

American Vanguard Australia has announced the acquisition of Australian specialty agricultural and CropLife member company AgNova Technologies.

Syngenta recently launched the new Good Growth Plan which puts the urgent fight against a changing climate and biodiversity loss at the heart of farming's future and the global economic recovery.

Syngenta has made four ambitious new global commitments to reduce agriculture's carbon footprint and help farmers deal with the extreme weather patterns caused by the changing climate. These commitments – driving Syngenta's innovation – will help farmers and society sustainably recover from the ongoing effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

Visit **goodgrowthplan.com** to find out more.



Eurofins is now an official partner of Charles Sturt University's AgriPark precinct on the Wagga Wagga campus.

Eurofins research scientists, Ellie Faulder and Bhavtaran Singh, will service the Riverina district from their new facility and take the opportunity to work with other AgriPark partners and CSU researchers.

Mr Paul Luxton, Country Head and Managing Director, ANZ, for Syngenta, has been appointed for another term as President of Australia's national peak industry organisation for the plant science sector, CropLife Australia.
Mr Luxton will be joined on CropLife's Executive by fellow industry leaders with a vast wealth of knowledge and expertise:

- Mr Damien Ryan, Managing Director, Sipcam Pacific Australia as Vice President (Crop Protection)
- Mr Joerg Ellmanns, Managing Director, Bayer CropScience as Vice President (Crop Biotechnology)
- Mr Gavin Jackson, Head of Agriculture Solutions Australia and New Zealand, BASF Australia as Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee

In addition to the Executive, the following people will serve as Directors on the CropLife Australia Board for 2020-21:

- Mr Tony Brookes, Managing Director, Sumitomo Chemical Australia Pty Limited
- Ms Kristina Hermanson, Managing Director ANZ, FMC Australasia Pty Ltd
- Mr Darrin Hines, Chief Executive Officer, ADAMA Australia
- Mr Rob Kaan, Managing Director Australia/NZ/Japan/Korea, Corteva Agriscience
- Mr Peter O'Keeffe, ANZ Regional General Manager, Nufarm Australia Limited

CropLife Australia is the national peak industry organisation representing the plant science sector in Australia.

CropLife's members are the world-leading innovators, developers, manufacturers and formulators of crop protection and crop biotechnology products.

The plant science industry, which enables more than $20 billion a year of Australian agricultural production, provides products to protect crops against pests, weeds and diseases, as well as developing crop biotechnologies key to the nation's agricultural productivity, profitability and sustainability. CropLife is part of the plant science industry's 91 country international federation.

CropLife represents the best of the Australian plant science industry

Nufarm

BAYER

syngenta

ADAMA

Nutrien Ag Solutions

FMC

CORTEVA agriscience

Elders

BASF We create chemistry

UPL OpenAg

SIPCAM Innovation Not Imitation

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PHILSTIC Label Connoisseurs

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CropLife Australia