

SA grain producers urged to take the 'Spray Pledge'

23 February 2022 (Canberra) – South Australian grain producers are being urged to take the 'Spray Pledge' in a new industry-led initiative launched today by Grain Producers South Australia (GPSA) in partnership with CropLife to highlight the importance of applying crop protection products responsibly.

South Australian grain producers can take the 'Responsible Spray Application Pledge', to demonstrate they are using best practice application of pesticides by visiting spraypledge.com.au.

Chief Executive Officer of CropLife Australia, the national peak industry organisation for the plant science sector, Mr Matthew Cossey, said, "Pesticides are crucial to modern integrated pest management methods. We've seen just how important they are to safe food production following a very wet start to the season. Fungicides, herbicides and insecticides enable farmers to preserve crop yield, protect soil health, reduce carbon emissions and improve food safety.

"CropLife's members invest billions of dollars each year into the research and development of innovative products, which have improved application precision to reduce the risk of pesticide drift occurring. But ultimately the best and most important way to maintain farmer access to these crucial products is through best practice application.

"Partnerships like this are important reminders that agricultural sector are all on the same page when it comes to best practice farming and stopping spray drift. We can achieve this when combining industry-led best-practice initiatives with the leadership demonstrated by applicators in South Australia who are committed to being world best.

"I commend GPSA for their ongoing work in this area and CropLife Australia and our members are very pleased to be their partners in this important initiative," concluded Mr Cossey.

To join the 'Spray Pledge', visit www.spraypledge.com.au

Visit www.stewardshipfirst.com.au for CropLife's industry-led best practice application guides MyAgCHEMUSE and SprayBEST for responsible application and spray drift management.

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Contact: Elyse Denman | 0459 550 010 | elyse.denman@croplife.org.au

About CropLife Australia

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, worth more than \$20 billion a year to 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.