

CropLife India enables farmers to responsibly use crop protection products and dispose used empty containers

- Project initiated towards agriculture sustainability thus promoting farmer welfare through education and awareness in Bharuch, district of Ankleshwar, Gujarat.
- CropLife India's Stewardship initiative to educate and engage farmers supports Government's "**Grow safe food campaign**",
- Two-year project in Gujarat reiterates the responsible and sustainable use of crop protection products or agrochemicals in agriculture to produce safe and more food per hectare.

02 December 2016, Bharuch, Ankleshwar, Gujarat: Demonstrating the need for agriculture sustainability through farmers' welfare, while responsibly using crop protection products and safe disposal of used empty crop protection / pesticide containers, This project supports the Government's "Grow Safe Food" campaign of the Department of Agriculture , Co-operation & Farmer's Welfare, under the Ministry of Agriculture, CropLife India's implementing partner is Kruti Charitable Trust the who have identified 2000 farmers from 4 villages to train farmers on the "**Responsible Use of Crop Protection Products and Container Management**" in Bharuch district of Ankeshwar in Gujarat. The ongoing project in Gujarat was today inaugurated by the honourable State Minister of Co-operation, Shri Ishwar Singh Patel at Sajod Sarvjanik High School, Sajod, Ankleshwar, Dist-Bharuch. in the presence of Shri. Dushyantbhai Patel (MLA Bharuch, Gujarat , Shri Anand B. Patel (I.A.S) District Development Officer Bharuch, Shri Bhaktsharan S. Panchal, District Assistant. Agriculture Officer, Dr. G G Radadia, Professor & Head, Department of IPM , Storage & Entomology; N.M. College of Agriculture, Navsari; local panchayat, village Sarpanchs' , Agriculture extension workers, representatives from Collector's office, Information & Broadcasting ministry, representative of MLAs , farmers from the adjoining villages, farmer families, Master trainers from Kruti Charitable trust the implementing partner, including CropLife India member companies.

While inaugurating the program, Shri Ishwar Sinh Patel, honourable State Minister of Co-operation, Govt. of Gujarat, ""I congratulate Crop Life India to enable farmers of Baruch in Ankleshwar taluka to responsibly use crop protection products and dispose the used containers, to support the government's grow safe food to build a sustainable agriculture for the first time in Gujarat. Such concentrated field training programs not only helps farmers but also create awareness amongst farmer families, villagers and state government officials. While it is important for the farmer to work towards enhancing crop productivity, at the same time farmers should ensure growing safe and secured food for a growing nation "".

Mr Brij Uberoi, CEO, Crop Life India mentioned that it was important to register newer and safer molecules of crop protection products to make them available to farmers. The objective behind the pilot project in Baruch is to promote the right use of crop protection products and safe disposal of triple rinsed used empty pesticides containers in an environmentally sound manner amongst farmers. The project enables to support the Grow Safe Campaign of the Ministry of Agriculture, Co-operation & Farmer's Welfare while developing a public private self-sustaining model built around the challenges faced with the farming community through product Stewardship which is one of the key engagements for CropLife India."

Shri Dushyantbhai Patel, MLA, Bharuch reiterated the words of CEO, CropLife India towards usage of safer molecules during manufacturing of Pesticides which would be useful and safer for farmers. He also stressed on the fact that counterfeit products in the market were a menace and such training projects ensured farmers were kept aware on quality of products and read the labels on the bottles."

The launch was attended by more than 700 farmers, local villagers , N.M. College of Agriculture, Navsari; scientists from Navsari Agriculture university; local panchayat, Sarpanchs' of local villages, Agriculture extension workers, representatives from Collector's office , Information & Broadcasting ministry, representative of MLAs , farmers from the adjoining villages, farmer families, Master trainers from Kruti Charitable trust the implementing partner, including CropLife India member companies.



Media Release

Synopsis of the Project: Stewardship being one of the key engagements for CropLife India, the 2-year project demonstrates the benefits of responsible use of Crop Protection Products and Container Management through training and awareness amongst more than 2000 farmers and their families in four villages of Bharuch district, thus encouraging agriculture sustainability through farmer engagement to grow safe food.

The project has gained a steady pace and has been appreciated by the Agriculture, Co-operation & Farmer's Welfare departments of both the center & Gujarat governments authorities, Anand Agriculture University and the farming community. The three master trainers from the project were sent to Anand Agriculture University for IPM training. In the first year the project covers 4 villages of Sajod, Dhanturiya, Borbhatha-bet and Kansiya targeting both direct and indirect farmer groups, while Trainings for farmers include classroom teaching and practical field training sessions for farmers. The 16 elaborative modules cover a wide range of topics such as IPM, role of beneficial insects including pollinators, judicious and responsible use of chemicals, secure storage of pesticides, impacts of counterfeit and illegal products, use of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) such as masks and gloves, correct spraying techniques, maintaining sprayers and nozzles, and triple rinsing of used containers and disposing them in designated locations after usage during the season. CropLife India has ongoing projects in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Bihar and have plans to extend them to other states across the country.

Crop Protection products commonly known as agro-chemicals or pesticides are critical inputs in agriculture while they protect crops from pests and diseases. The training strives to precaution farmers on the improper usage of empty containers to store food, edibles, water, animal feed and the impact of traces of left over chemicals on human health, livestock and environment.

About Crop Life India:

CropLife India is an Association of Technology driven Crop Science Industry, committed to Advancing Sustainable Indian Agriculture. CropLife India promotes the benefits and responsible use of Crop Protection products, as well as sound regulatory frameworks in support of sustainable agriculture in India. CropLife India is part of CropLife International, a global federation of the plant science industry in over 90 countries. CropLife India believes in a strong and science-based regulatory system to protect people and the environment such that timely access to new crops, new pesticides or new uses for existing pesticides should be promoted.

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