



MEDIA RELEASE
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Keeping safe when using agrichemicals

Users of agrichemicals can be assured that these products are safe. Herbicides and insecticides undergo strict and thorough regulatory testing to ensure their safety prior to being allowed for use within New Zealand.

Crop protection products are regulated twice - the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) examines their impact on people and the environment, while residues in food are regulated by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

Any safety precautions for using an agrichemical will be identified on the product label.

“This is why it is so important to read the label,” says Agcarm Chief Executive, Mark Ross.

“The label will tell you how to use the product safely and what personal protective gear is needed. It’s always good practice to wear gloves, closed shoes, a long sleeve shirt and long pants when using agrichemicals - especially when mixing.”

This guidance is outlined in the Agcarm [‘Be Smart, Be Safe’](#) poster, which explains what to wear when using pesticides.

Maximum residue limits are set by MPI at levels well below those known to have any possible adverse health effect.

These products are only approved for use if they pose no greater risk to consumers than foods grown without their use, according to MPI. Consuming the amounts of produce required to ingest anything close to a dangerous amount of pesticide is impossible.

Agcarm will continue to work with the regulators to ensure every crop protection product goes through proper testing procedure and will only be sold when its safety has been assured.

About Agcarm

Agcarm is the industry association of companies which manufacture, distribute and sell products that keep animals healthy and crops thriving. Member companies are committed to ensuring that these products are used safely, effectively and sustainably

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