

Priorities to Improve the Effectiveness of Pesticide Regulation



Election 2024

CropLife America (CLA) and its member companies welcome a strong, science-based, regulatory system to help ensure public safety and confidence in the value of pesticide products and the critical role they play in protecting and enhancing our well-being. U.S. regulation of pesticides is the most rigorous in the world, driven by robust science and bolstered by continuous surveillance and review. However, increasingly evident inefficiencies in the regulatory system threaten to constrain the innovation needed to develop safe and effective tools to counter ever present pest pressures that are constantly evolving due to pesticide resistance, climate change, invasive species, misinformation, and other factors.



Below we outline several measures that could enhance the effectiveness of the current regulatory system in protecting human health and the environment while encouraging needed scientific innovation.

These proposed measures can be summarized as follows:

Improvement of the Registration Process

CropLife America supports technology and process improvements that will allow EPA to fulfill its registration obligations efficiently and effectively.



Improvement of the ESA Pesticide Process

CropLife America supports an efficient, legally defensible, and transparent process for Endangered Species Act reviews of pesticide registration decisions that results in scientifically supported and commercially viable mitigation measures.



Support for EPA Funding

CropLife America supports full funding of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) to assure that the Agency has adequate resources to meet the demands of modern agriculture.



Transparency in Agency Decisions

CropLife America supports greater transparency and clarity regarding pesticide registration decisions.



Defense of the Current Pesticide-Specific Risk Assessment Process

CropLife America support's EPA's longstanding focus on pesticide-specific risk assessments, and urges EPA to avoid inconsistent, duplicative or piecemeal approaches to regulate pesticides.



Digital Labeling

CropLife America supports a clear and definitive roadmap for full implementation of digital labeling for pesticide products.



Grower and USDA Participation in the Regulatory Process

CropLife America supports efforts to provide growers and the US Department of Agriculture with greater opportunities to participate in and contribute to the registration process.



Strengthening the EPA Agriculture Advisor's role

CropLife America supports greater engagement with EPA's Agriculture Advisor on registration decisions including, in particular, the balancing of risks and benefits and the evaluation of risk mitigation measures.



Assuring that Data Relied Upon to Support Registration Decisions Satisfy EPA's Established Data Quality Criteria Under FIFRA

CropLife America urges EPA to clarify that the quality and reliability of any data used to support a registration decision must be at least equivalent to the quality and reliability of data developed through Guideline, GLP studies mandated in the Agency's regulations.



This paper provides a summarized version of CLA's priorities as we continue into 2024. If you would like more details a companion piece is available. Reach out to Jeff Blackwood (jblackwood@croplifeamerica.org) for additional information.