

Phase-out of the most toxic products follows the plan

Cheminova's objectives within Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) include phase-out of the most toxic products (the so-called WHO class I products) in developing countries. In the plan we have published which countries and products are involved and when the phase-out will take place, and by the end of 2009, 13 of the totally 15 phasing-outs have been accomplished. In 2010, the plan will be completed as planned.

Production and sale of insecticide stopped in India

In the autumn 2009, Cheminova stopped production of the toxic compound monocrotophos at the factory in India. As promised in the phase-out plan, sales of the much demanded insecticide Luphos SL, which is made from monocrotophos, was stopped at the end of 2009. Corresponding products are still produced and sold by our competitors in India.

It has been our plan to replace Luphos SL by a newly developed product also based on monocrotophos but having a substantially reduced toxicity. This product has been developed on the basis of a patented granulation process and has been tested in a number of trials both regarding efficacy and reduced toxicity. However, the authorities have not yet completed the approval procedure. This is expected to take place during the first half of 2010, and until then we cannot start marketing of the product. It remains to be seen to which degree this more expensive product will be accepted in the market.

Many new products in India

The monocrotophos plant in India is being rebuilt. The plant will be totally renovated so that we during 2010 will be able to make more new products at the plant, including a new fungicide which will be included in Cheminova's global product portfolio. This product is outside WHO's toxic classes and is characterized as "unlikely to present acute hazard in normal use".

As a consequence of Cheminova India's new development strategy, focus has in 2009 been on new products which are all outside the most toxic category. This has led to a modernization of the product portfolio. Last year, 11 new products were introduced. These products are partly based on captive production and partly on products from other producers.

Methyl parathion

This insecticide in its most toxic form has now been phased out in all developing countries. However, methyl parathion is still the farmers' most important weapon against the cotton boll weevil

in Brazil, but irrespective of that we are going to phase out this product by the end of 2010. Based on experience from the USA, the far less toxic product, malathion, has been introduced to fight the boll weevil. Even though the spraying technique with this product is more complicated the results have been so good that the Ministry of Agriculture expects malathion to be a realistic alternative to methyl parathion also in Brazil during 2010.

Status of the phase-out plan

We have promised to phase out the most toxic products (the so-called WHO class I products) in developing countries by the end of 2010. The plan is followed without deviations - except that in some countries the plan has been fulfilled faster than promised. By introducing several new products, the plan has been carried through in a sustainable way both for the farmers getting less toxic alternatives and for the company being able to keep its position in the market.

Please see status overview on www.cheminova.dk.



The last batch of Luphos SL (monocrotophos) is bottled at the factory with participation of the management from both India and Denmark. The event marked the beginning of a new era.

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