

I.

Product Knowledge

Topic 16

Pesticide Recommendations

FACT SHEET

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Topic 16: Pesticide Recommendations

Pesticide recommendations

Before any pesticide recommendations can be given, a few things need to be taken into consideration:

- The type of pest that needs to be controlled.
- The crop that is involved.
- The pesticide label, which lists the pests that the specific pesticide is registered for. The label also includes information regarding the dosage, mixing, and application of the pesticide.

Pest identification: Make sure that the farmer identifies the pest correctly. If there is any doubt, ask the farmer to bring a sample of the pest to the shop. Incorrect pest identification may result in the application of the wrong pesticide.

Crops involved: Make sure that you can identify the crop the pest is on.

The Pesticide Label: Recommend only according to label. Select the correct pesticide: Recommend only pesticides that are registered to control the identified pest. Tell farmer customers to read the label before they measure, mix or apply any pesticide

Pesticide recommendation guidelines for most common pests on major crops:

Very important: Read the label before making any recommendations. Do not recommend any application of pesticides outside the label.

Pest	Crop	Recommended Pesticide
Grasshoppers	Maize, cowpea, groundnut, and sorghum/millet	Cypermethrin (Delfos), Fusilade Super
Weeds	Maize, cowpea, rice, groundnuts, yam, sorghum/millet, and cassava	Paraquat (Gramazone)
Rodents	Maize, groundnut, yam, and cassava	Phostoxin (Aluminium Phosphide)
Snails	Maize, rice and sorghum/millet	Ferric Phosphate
Locust	Maize, cowpea, groundnut, sorghum/millet, and cassava	Metarrhizium anisophae
White Fly	Cowpea	Thiomethoxam



Aphids	Cowpea	Aphicides (Thyme)
Birds	Rice and sorghum/ millet	Avicides (Parathion, Avitrol: 4-aminopyridine)
Nematodes	Rice, groundnut, yam, sorghum/millet and cassava	Steinermatid and heterohaditd nematodes

INSTRUCTIONS

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Topic 16: Pesticide Recommendations

Materials needed

- Flip-sheet board with flip-sheets
- Markers (1 black, 1 blue, 1 green, 1 red)
- Colored cards
- 3 sets of copies of real pesticide labels for the pesticides listed in the table in the fact-sheet

Time needed: 1 hour

Preparations:

- Flip-sheet with the heading *Pesticide recommendations*
- Set of colored cards with the following:
 - *Type of pest*
 - *Type of crop*
 - *Pesticide label*
- Kraft paper with the following table:

Type of crop	Type of pest	Pesticide recommendation
Maize	Weeds and grasshoppers	
Cowpea	Aphids and whitefly	
Rice	Nematodes and locusts	
Groundnut	Rodents and caterpillars	
Yam	Nematodes and weeds	
Sorghum/Millet	Birds and snails	
Cassava	Locust and rodents	

- Flip-sheet with the phrase: *Read the label before making any pesticide recommendations*

Set up

- Attention:** Tell participants that agri-input dealers play a very important role in recommending the right pesticides for a specific pest.
- Title:** Tell participants the title while showing the flip-sheet with the title: *Pesticide Recommendations*.
- Credibility:** Explain your experience in pesticide recommendations.
- Objectives:** To explain the importance of correct pesticide recommendations and introduce basic pesticide recommendations for major crops.
- Benefits:** Understanding basic pesticide recommendations will help agri-input dealers better serve customers. It will also minimize the risk of giving farmers the wrong advice.
- Direction:** During this session, we will focus on basic pesticides recommendations linking the pest and crop to the correct pesticide. We will not discuss dosage and application recommendations.

Delivery

Explanation, Demonstration, Exercise, and Guidance:

1. Remind the participants about your statement: Agri-input dealers play a very important role in recommending the right pesticides for a specific pest. Ask them **why?** Allow a few answers and lead to:
 - a. Incorrect recommendation can harm crops and the farmer.
 - b. Incorrect recommendations are costly.
 - c. Correct recommendations will build trust between the farmer and the agri-input dealer.
 - d. Correct recommendations will grow the agri-input business.
2. Tell the participants that we will look into the basics of pesticides recommendations. Ask the participants: **What information** do you need before you can give any pesticide recommendations? Let them answer but guide them to:
 - a. The pest. Put the colored card labeled *Type of pest* on the wall.
 - b. The type of crop. Put the colored card labeled *Type of crop* on the wall.
 - c. Pesticide registered use. Put the colored card labeled *Pesticide label* on the wall.
3. Divide the participants into three groups. Hand each group a set of copies of pesticide labels. Tell them that they are going to assist a farmer (played by the facilitator) with a **pest problem**.

4. Pretend that you are a farmer and tell the groups: “I am a farmer and I have a problem with my maize. I have weeds and grasshoppers. Which pesticide can I use to control them?” Tell the groups that they have to **recommendation a pesticide**. Give each group a colored card to write the recommended pesticide.
5. **Discuss the results**. Ask how each group came to its recommendation. Make sure everyone understands how to use the labels to make a recommendation.
6. Tell the groups that we are going to give some **more recommendations** for other crops and other pests. Put the table with the type of crop, type of pest, and pesticide recommendation on the wall. Point to the maize and weed and grasshopper problem and fill in the recommended pesticide from the exercise.
7. Ask the groups to formulate **pesticide recommendations** for each problem:

Type of Crop	Type of pest	Pesticide recommendations
Maize	Weeds and grasshoppers	Weeds: Paraquat (Gramazone) Grasshopper: Cypermethrin(Delfos), Fusilade Super.
Cowpea	Aphids and whitefly	Aphids: Aphicides (Thyme) Whitefly: Thiomethoxam
Rice	Nematodes and locusts	Nematodes: Steinermatid and heterohaditd nematodes Locust: Metarrhizium anisophae
Groundnut	Rodents	Rodents: Phostoxin (Aluminium Phosphide)
Yam	Nematodes and weeds	Nematodes: Steinermatid and heterohaditd nematodes. Weeds: Paraquat (Gramazone)
Sorghum/Millet	Birds and snails	Birds: Avicides (Parathion, Avitrol : 4-aminopyridine) Snails: Ferric Phosphate
Cassava	Locust and rodents	Locust: Metarrhizium anisophae Rodents: Phostoxin (Aluminium Phosphide)

8. Let each group write its recommendations on colored cards and paste them on the table.
9. Discuss the results. Make sure everyone **understands** how the labels are used to make the recommendations. The correct results are in the fact sheet.

10. Tell participants that they have now experienced basic pesticide recommendations. Tell them that the most important part of pesticide recommendations is to **read the label**. Post the flip-sheet with the phrase *Read the label before making any pesticide recommendations*.
11. Point out that if a farmer comes to their shop, they should always **listen to the problem** before giving any recommendations. They should also be aware that applying pesticides might not always be necessary.

Finish

- Summary:** Tell participants that three things are important to take into consideration when giving pesticide recommendations: the pest to be controlled, the crop, and the pesticide label.
- Questions:** Ask if anyone has a question or comment.
- Evaluation:** Ask them what information you need to give a pesticide recommendation. Ask them to name the consequences of making incorrect recommendations. Ask them how you know which pesticide is the correct pesticide to control a pest.
- Next step:** In this session, we learned about the basics of pesticide recommendations. As an agro-dealer, they should also recommend to customers how to apply the pesticide.

Distribute the **fact-sheet** to all participants.