

# Fact Sheet

## Product Stewardship

All information in this document is correct at the time of publication - Jan 2022

### What is Product Stewardship?

Product stewardship is about minimising the impact of a manufactured product on the environment at all stages of its life cycle. Those who design, produce, sell or use a product are all encouraged to take responsibility, from its inception, through to the end-of-life stage. By adopting safe practices in the manufacture, use and disposal of a product, the impact on people, property and the environment can be curtailed. The greatest responsibility often lies with the manufacturer of the product, although all within the chain of commerce have an obligation to manage its use.

### What is Agsafe?

Agsafe is CropLife Australia's industry stewardship program organisation. CropLife and its member companies funded and established Agsafe as an Australian non-profit organisation offering programs that support product stewardship of agricultural and veterinary chemicals throughout the supply chain.

The manufacture, supply, use and disposal of AgVet chemicals is managed by state and territory government regulators. Agsafe seeks to encourage compliance with safety regulations by providing training to suppliers of AgVet chemicals; container management (**drumMUSTER**) and product disposal (ChemClear)

### What is Agsafe Training?

Our training programs are designed for people working in the AgVet chemical supply chain who are responsible for safe transport, storage and handling of AgVet chemical products. Courses are recommended for all employees involved in the storage and handling of AgVet chemical products including agronomists and sales personnel.

#### Course topics include:

- safe storage and handling of AgVet chemical products
- dangerous goods transportation
- legal requirements for manufacturers and suppliers.

### What is an Agsafe Premises?

Agsafe premises that meet the Agsafe Industry Standards ensure stores are compliant with state and territory regulations for safe transport, handling and storage of AgVet chemical products. Agsafe Industry Standards assure farmers and customers they can trust advice from suppliers and are minimising potential risk to human health, the community and the environment from accidental spills and releases.

### What is drumMUSTER?

Containers with the **drumMUSTER** logo have a 6-cent/L levy included in the cost of the chemical at purchase, which covers the free collection of Group 1 empty chemical drums and containers. The plastic drums are inspected by collection agencies, transported, processed then recycled into wheelie bins, signs, pipes, containers and fence posts.



### What is ChemClear?

Property owners often have old, unwanted or unknown chemicals cluttering up storage sheds and these surplus chemicals are frequently forgotten. It poses the dilemma of how to dispose of broken, leaking or unlabeled containers. Safe disposal is imperative to the safety of family, workers, livestock, pets and the environment. Funded by the same levy as drumMUSTER, ChemClear offers a disposal path for unwanted chemicals where users register their obsolete products online, then relinquish their containers at a collection point for safe removal.

#### ChemClear has two categories of AgVet chemicals.

**Group 1** chemicals are collected free of charge. These chemicals are identified by a **drumMUSTER** logo on the chemical label or embedded in the container.

**Group 2** chemicals, which attract a disposal fee unless covered by a government subsidy, are:

- chemicals from non-participating manufacturers.
- no longer registered
- mixed AgVet chemicals
- unknown
- unlabeled
- out of date