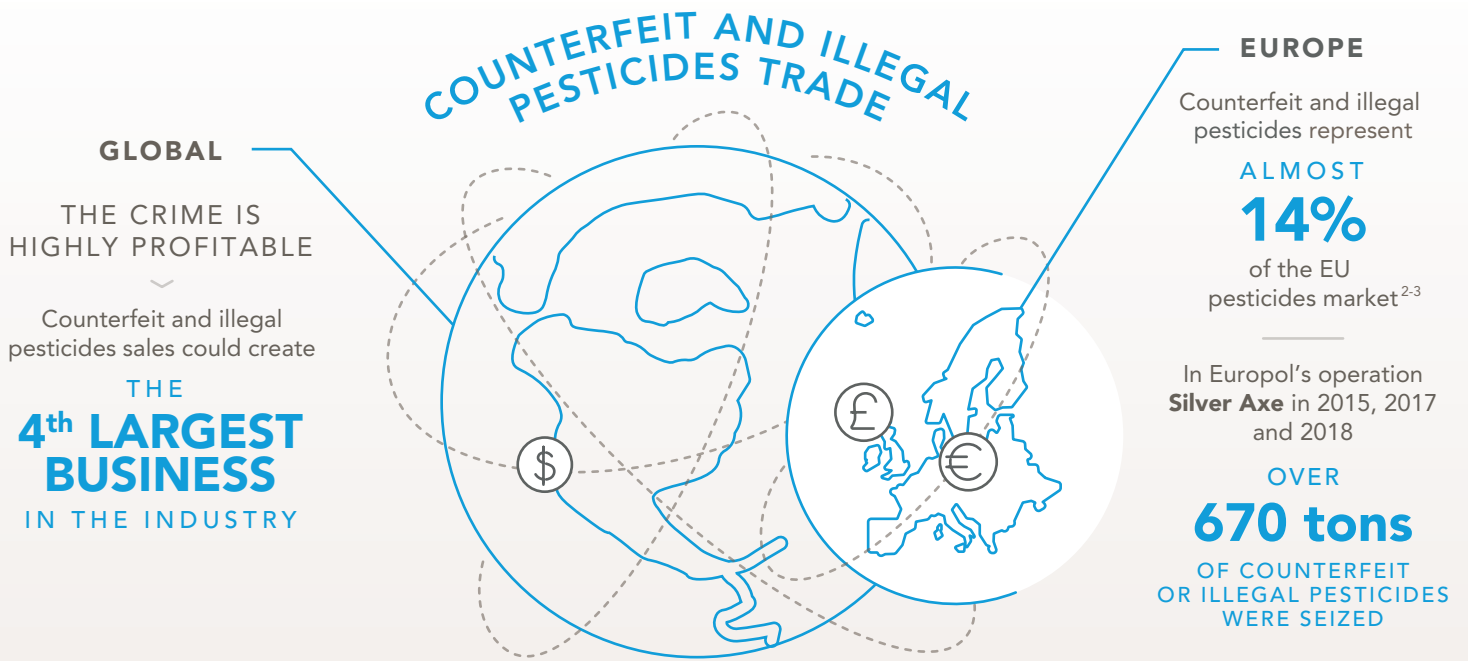


# Counterfeit and Illegal Pesticides in Europe



Tested and approved legal pesticides are used responsibly as an essential part of agriculture. Pesticides control the pest, weeds, and diseases that attack our food crops. Without crop protection, including legal pesticides, global crop losses to pests could reach 80 percent.<sup>1</sup>

The trade in **counterfeit and illegal pesticides** has been growing, with increasing quantities produced, marketed and sold by organised crime network, presenting real risks to farmer's health, the environment and the economy.

## Two contrasting worlds

THINK ABOUT THIS...

AUTHORISED PESTICIDES			COUNTERFEIT AND ILLEGAL PESTICIDES		
<b>TESTED</b>	<b>AUTHORISED</b>	<b>SUPPLIERS</b>	<b>UNTESTED</b>	<b>UNAUTHORISED</b>	<b>SUPPLIERS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ &gt;100 specific safety tests</li> <li>✓ Risks understood &amp; controlled</li> <li>✓ Benefits documented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ European Commission, EFSA</li> <li>✓ Member States, Agencies</li> <li>✓ Reviewed every 10 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Committed to deliver safe, high quality products</li> <li>✓ Cooperate with authorities</li> <li>✓ Provide stewardship support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ No safety test</li> <li>✗ Unknown risk</li> <li>✗ Possible harm (no benefit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Unregulated</li> <li>✗ Not reviewed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Criminals</li> <li>✗ Unknown to authorities</li> <li>✗ No stewardship</li> <li>✗ Support other illegal activities</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> OECD/FAO (2012), OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2012, OECD Publishing, Paris, [http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/agr\\_outlook-2012-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/agr_outlook-2012-en).

<sup>2</sup> European Commission "Ad-hoc study on the trade of illegal and counterfeit pesticides in the EU" [https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/plant/docs/pesticides\\_ppp\\_illegal-ppps-study.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/plant/docs/pesticides_ppp_illegal-ppps-study.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> EUIPO "The economic cost of IPR infringement in the pesticides sector" [https://euiipo.europa.eu/tunnel-web/secure/webdav/guest/document\\_library/observatory/resources/research-and-studies/ip\\_infringement/study10/pesticides\\_sector\\_en.pdf](https://euiipo.europa.eu/tunnel-web/secure/webdav/guest/document_library/observatory/resources/research-and-studies/ip_infringement/study10/pesticides_sector_en.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.chinapesticide.org.cn/ywb/index.jhtml>

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# All agricultural stakeholders in Europe are under threat

## THREATS TO THE VALUE CHAIN



### AUTHORITIES & GOVERNMENTS

Counterfeit and illegal pesticides threaten health and safety, hinder economic development, and erode government credibility **€238 million** government revenue lost per year<sup>3</sup>



### LEGITIMATE MANUFACTURERS

The legitimate industry loses approximately **€1.3 billion** of revenue annually<sup>3</sup>



### TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING

Ports being the main points of entry, smuggling across land borders with third countries



### PESTICIDE RETAILERS & DISTRIBUTORS

Loss of reputation with farmers and subsequent loss of business



### GROWERS /FARMERS

Loss of crops  
Loss of EU subsidies  
Soil deterioration  
Threat to farmer's health



### FOOD COMPANIES

Food supply loss  
Loss of trust  
Reduction in food security

## SOLUTIONS

### WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

✓ **Raise awareness through private and public sector collaboration**

✓ Shut down illegal producers

✓ Strengthen enforcement and market controls

✓ Empower pesticide authorities to work directly with customs at import and raise priority with customs at borders

✓ **Alert the entire supply /delivery chain to carry only legally registered pesticides from manufacturing countries to destination countries**

✓ Integrate anti-counterfeit training into all farmer outreach programs

✓ Comply with all laws and pesticide regulations

✓ Collaborate with international organisations, governments, police, customs and pesticide authorities with training about counterfeit and illegal pesticides

✓ **To avoid working with counterfeiters, vessel and aircraft delivery companies engage in "Know Your Customer" (KYC) practices**

✓ Comply with ICAMA export certification rules<sup>4</sup>

✓ Preserve supply chain integrity by refusing to deliver counterfeit and illegal pesticides

✓ **Sell only legally-registered pesticides; Practice "Know Your Supplier" (KYS) and purchase only from legitimate manufacturers**

✓ Inform farmers about the potential risk of counterfeit and illegal pesticides

✓ Ensure compliance with all laws and pesticides regulations

✓ **KYS and purchase from authorised pesticides retailers**

✓ Report suspicious incidents to pesticide authorities

✓ Demand receipts for every purchase

✓ **Insist that farmers use only legally registered and establish programs to ensure this**

✓ Collaborate with food export/import authorities to avoid crops being treated with illegal or counterfeit pesticides

✓ KYS and purchase produce only from countries and farmers using authorised pesticides

ECPA and its members work with police, customs and pesticide authorities to ensure that only authentic, authorised pesticides are traded, and used in a safe and responsible manner. As part of industry's fight against the counterfeit and illegal pesticides, we continue to raise awareness about the risks of such products.

IN 2016 & 2017

ACROSS EUROPE

ECPA AND ITS MEMBERS TRAINED:



NEARLY  
**100,000**  
FARMERS



NEARLY  
**9,000**  
DISTRIBUTORS

If you want to learn more about industry actions, please access our website:  
<http://www.ecpa.eu/stewardship/counterfeit-illegal-pesticides>

Example of raising awareness at national level:  
<http://bezpiecznaprawa.org>

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