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Contact: Isi Siddiqui
Office: 202-833-4474
isiddiqui@croplifeamerica.org

CROPLIFE SUPPORTS THE ANTI-COUNTERFEITING TRADE AGREEMENT (ACTA)

Washington, DC, October 23, 2007 – CropLife America and CropLife International strongly support the anti-counterfeiting efforts of the United States Trade Representative and welcome the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) proposal. The plant science industry seeks to increase effective enforcement of intellectual property rights standards internationally to promote economic growth and encourage the responsible stewardship of agrichemicals.

“The loss of diverted sales caused by the trade in counterfeit crop protection products is only one aspect of concern for the plant science industry. Unlike the regulated crop protection chemical industry, counterfeit crop protection products pose a direct threat to the economy, food supply, and health of farmers and consumers,” said Jay Vroom, President and CEO of CropLife America.

CropLife and its member companies are actively working with the United States government and international partners to limit the flow and distribution of illegally manufactured crop protection chemicals. We welcome the increased international cooperation on enforcement by like-minded countries that ACTA will bring. “We are eager to engage our regional partners to work with law enforcement agencies within ACTA participant countries,” added Jay Vroom.

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Look for CropLife America on the World Wide Web at www.croplifeamerica.org.
Established in 1933, CropLife America represents the developers, manufacturers, formulators and distributors of plant science solutions for agriculture in the United States. CropLife America's member companies produce, sell and distribute virtually all the crop protection products used by American farmers and ranchers.