

## **Farmers in Abbotsford return more than 10,000 kilograms of obsolete pesticides**

December 7, 2011 – Ottawa, ON – Farmers in Abbotsford, B.C. turned in 10,134 kilograms of obsolete pesticides during a two-day collection held in partnership with CleanFARMS and the City of Abbotsford.

“CleanFARMS is proud to offer collection programs to ensure unwanted or obsolete pesticides can be disposed of in an environmentally responsible way, at no cost to farmers,” said Barry Friesen, general manager of CleanFARMS, a national, industry-led stewardship organization. “This collection was made a success thanks to the participation of both farmers and the municipality.”

On Oct. 19 and 20, producers were invited to return their unwanted or obsolete pesticides at the Abbotsford Mission Recycling Depot. Throughout the month of October, collections were also held at four other locations in the Fraser Valley and on Vancouver Island.

“We were pleased to partner with CleanFARMS to deliver this program,” says Barry Azevedo, water and solid waste engineering manager, City of Abbotsford. “The obsolete pesticide collection program makes it easy for farmers to safely and responsibly dispose of unwanted products, and this benefits the whole community.”

CleanFARMS partnered with the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC), through the Agriculture Environment and Wildlife Fund of the BC Investment Agriculture Foundation, to fund and operate this program.

The CleanFARMS obsolete pesticide collection program is a national, industry-led program. Since 1998 more than 1.4 million kilograms of obsolete or unwanted agricultural pesticides have been collected through the program – more than 207,000 of which have been collected in British Columbia. After collection, the pesticides are taken to a licensed disposal facility where they are disposed of through high temperature incineration.

For more information on the plant science industry’s recycling initiatives, please visit [www.CleanFARMS.ca](http://www.CleanFARMS.ca).

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