

Farmers in the Cowichan Valley Regional District return 1,000 kilograms of obsolete pesticides

December 12, 2011 – Ottawa, ON – Farmers in the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) in British Columbia turned in 1,000 kilograms of obsolete pesticides during a one-day collection held in partnership with CleanFARMS.

“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. “Thanks to the commitment of both farmers and the CVRD, this year’s collection was a great success.”

On Oct. 5, producers were invited to return their unwanted or obsolete pesticides at the Bings Creek Waste Management facility. Throughout the month of October collections were also held at four other locations throughout the Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island.

“The Cowichan Valley Regional District is excited about partnering with CleanFARMS to safely dispose of obsolete pesticides,” said Gerry Giles, Area Director for Electoral Area C (Cobble Hill). “Our communities and local farmers are committed to protecting our environment and water and they have shown this by collecting and safely disposing of more than 1,000 kilograms of obsolete pesticides.”

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 B.C. After collection, the pesticides are safely and responsibly disposed of.

For more information on the plant science industry’s recycling initiatives, please visit www.CleanFARMS.ca.

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