

Safe and effective plant protection

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The Bulgarian Crop Protection Industry Association (BCPIA), together with Titan Machinery Bulgaria, held field demonstrations on the topic: “Safe use of plant protection products and modern equipment for their application”.

The field demonstrations were held last week in the areas of Dobrich and Shumen and showcased not only good agricultural practices for the safe use of plant protection products, but also the optimal technological solutions for their application. The organizers’ idea is for these events to become traditional, combining a theoretical and a practical part in the field. In this way, the “school” itself will go to the farmers and will balance between the introduction of new technologies in agriculture and already established agricultural practices and the proper management of plant protection products.

During the presentations, interest was aroused by the CASE IH Farmall 95 tractor, aggregated with a trailed Tecnomas sprayer with a boom width of 24 meters. This combination proves particularly suitable for smaller grain producers who cannot afford a self-propelled sprayer, but wish to achieve optimal results when spraying the crops on their farms.

BCPIA

The Bulgarian Crop Protection Industry Association (BCPIA) pursues a policy for the sustainable use of pesticides on the territory of the country. Within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU, into which our national legislation in this field is also incorporated, the measures and objectives of this common policy will be strictly evaluated and controlled by the European authorities.

The Association is also engaged in the development of a system for used plastic pesticide containers. The main goal is to collect by 2020 the maximum possible quantity of containers under conditions of environmentally sound and sustainable management, recycling and promotion of resource conservation. The expansion of the system on a national scale is planned for 2015/2016, with the collection of *triple-rinsed containers* of pesticides to take place in two campaigns per year – May/June and October/November. Farmers are provided with transparent plastic bags for the safe storage of rinsed containers, and the handover is carried out at collection points previously announced in the regions, or “door-to-door” upon request for large quantities. A characteristic feature of the system is the requirement to collect only properly *triple-rinsed containers* of pesticides, which are inspected by specially trained inspectors. In return, agricultural producers receive documents proving the handover of the respective quantities of empty containers.