



# PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS BOARD

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## **Withdrawal of high risk plant protection products and the implications for market access**

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# Outline

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- Introduction
- Challenges/impact of pesticides risk reduction measures
- Interventions/opportunities
- Recommendations



# Introduction

- PCPB is a Statutory organization of Kenya Government established under an Act of parliament, the Pest Control Products Act, Cap 346, Laws of Kenya of 1982
- The Act regulates the importation and exportation, manufacture, distribution and use of pest control products (**PCPs**)
- There are 6 main subsidiary legislations— registration, licensing, import/export, labeling, packaging and advertisement, disposal regulation, fees and other charges
- Amended in 2006, 2014, 2015 and 2024. There is a new draft PCP Bill 2024.
- PCPs for use in crop production and public health regulated by PCPB, VMD - veterinary medicines and other animal health products, NEMA-industrial chemicals



# PCPs regulated by PCPB

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## Range of Pest Control Products regulated by PCPB:

- Conventional chemical pesticides
- Biopesticides: Botanicals, biochemicals, microorganisms, natural enemies
- Any compound or substance that enhances or modifies the physical or chemical characteristics of a pest control product to which it is added e.g **adjuvants and wetting agents**
- Technical grade active ingredients
- The above products are used in crop production & public health





# Importance of Agriculture in Kenya



- ❑ Agriculture is vital to Kenya's economy, contributing significantly to GDP and employment, especially in rural areas.
- ❑ The sector employs over 40% of the population and sustains 70% of the rural population
- ❑ Kenya is a major exporter of Fresh horticultural produce, tea and coffee globally.
- ❑ In 2023, Kenya earned Ksh. 156.69 billion from Horticultural exports



# Challenges in the horticultural sector



- ❑ In the recent years, there have been a decrease in the flower and vegetable export earnings
- ❑ Challenges include:
  - High cost of production
  - Logistical challenges: air freight, sea
  - Pests and diseases e.g. FCM, FAW, *Tuta absoluta*
  - Rejection of vegetables in the export market due exceedances of MRL set for pesticides





# Pesticide risk reduction

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## Impact/challenges

- Pesticide risk reduction measures have lead to withdrawal from the market many pesticides which are regarded as highly hazardous pesticides especially in the EU which is Kenya's main trading partner.
- There has been increased activism in Kenya against use of pesticides; leading to petitions and court cases
- Growers are left with limited number of tools to deal with the many plant pests and diseases
- Rejection of vegetables in the export due exceedances of the lowered MRLs for the withdrawn pesticides and pest presence in the produce.



## Impact contd'

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- Low crop yields due to pests and diseases
- Loss of export market
- Affect food security
- Reduced economy growth and loss of peoples livelihoods.





# Interventions

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The changing regulatory environment for pesticides have brought several opportunities:

- In 2019 PCPB developed Guidance document on risk assessment of pesticides ( in collaboration with Wagengen University with the support from the Dutch Government).
- PCPB has reviewed several registered active ingredients reading to restrictions or withdrawal of some products from the market ( CABI has supported some activities).
- Developed guidelines for registration of biopesticides ( Low risk products)
- Mechanism of fast-tracking registration of low risk products has been put in place ( these products are given priority and requirement for local efficacy trials is reduced.



## Interventions cont'

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- Formation of Minor Crops Technical Working Group to address the challenges of PPP approved of minor crops. Through the efforts of this group many low risk products have been registered. ( CABI AND COLEAD has supported various activities)
- PCPB in collaboration with other stakeholders developed Kenya Crop Grouping and data extrapolation guidelines. This has facilitated registration of alternative products ( CABI has supported capacity building of the agrochemical industry on this guidelines).
- There has been increased awareness creation activities on responsible use of pesticides
- Promotion of concept of spray service providers: farmers who receive training to apply pesticides.
- Development of National Pesticide Residue Monitoring Framework ( with support from CABI).



## Interventions cont'

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- Construction of PCPB residue laboratory
- The lab has a section dedicated to monitoring of pesticide residues in food commodities, water and soils.
- Data collected will be used for decision making





# Recommendations

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- ☐ Continuous collaboration with stakeholders
- ☐ Technical assistance for Kenyan horticultural SH be to comply in order to meet market requirements
- ☐ Capacity building/ strengthening National bodies so that they can provide guidance, ensuring compliance and facilitating market access.



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# End

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