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PESTICIDE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT: CURRENT STATUS AND PERSPECTIVES IN SERBIA

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The use of pesticides has increased rapidly in low and middle income countries over the last decade. Appropriate management of used pesticide containers, is important issue for protection of human health and the environment in these areas. In order to reduce the risk in the application of plant protection products, good management of packaging and packaging waste, before and after the use of the product in it, is of paramount importance. In Serbia, use of pesticide is growing every year. Majority of used pesticides, are not managed properly and disposed in nearby non-controlled landfills or left in field. In European Union range of actions are undertaken, through the legal framework and establishment of container management programs, to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment. Solving the problem of hazardous packaging waste from plant protection products in Serbia encounters numerous obstacles, and the lack of experience in this field requires us to be more aware of the management system for this type of waste in the EU Member States. In addition, it is important to raise awareness of the proper handling of packaging waste from plant protection products, from the manufacturer to the end users. The paper will give the overview of the current situation in Serbia regarding management of used pesticide containers. Based on EU Member States experience in this field, analyse the possibilities for management of the containers and identified the obstacles for its development. The proposal for improvement measures is based on two models of management of this type of waste: voluntary and legally prescribed, implemented throughout the EU.

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