

This is how you can **protect** yourself against illegal pesticides:

Label

PPPs are products that require official approval and authorization. The label must carry details of the producer and initial distributor, the BVL's official authorization number or stamp of approval for parallel trade, and the indicators required by dangerous goods regulations.

Invoice

Responsible purchasing involves obtaining an invoice that shows the full product name along with the quantity, price and date of purchase.

Import

If you have any questions about products that may have been imported, please contact your supplier or official plant protection service.

Price

Question unrealistic prices and conspicuous discounts. Because cheap products can later become very expensive.

Tips for checking your supplier:

- 1 Does the retailer have a company address that can be validated (not just a PO box)?
- 2 Do you know the supplier personally or, if not, can he identify himself (official ID with photo)?
- 3 Is he familiar with the products and their uses?
- 4 Does he occasionally ask you about your shopping list?
- 5 Does he offer alternative products and solutions?
- 6 Can he also advise you if you have difficult-to-eradicate infestations?
- 7 Can he show you details of his supply channels?
- 8 Is the information on the receipt and invoice correct, and does it accurately match the goods?
- 9 Are the PPPs being offered with proper labelling in the German language (a precondition for official approval and authorization)?
- 10 Does your supplier participate in a programme for collecting empty containers (e. g. PAMIRA)?

If you can answer each of these questions with **YES**, you have found the right supplier!

For plant protection, the following applies:

The **right quality** can only be obtained from the **right supply sources**.



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Supplier stamp



Would you apply **this** to your plants?

- › What are **illegal** pesticides?
- › What are the **risks** to the environment, users, and your business?
- › What changes do the **new EU regulation on the approval of plant protection products** and the **new German plant protection law** bring?
- › This is how you can **protect** yourself against illegal pesticides!

What are illegal pesticides?

Pesticides, like medicines, are strictly-regulated chemicals. The approval process is based on complex procedures. The plant protection services control the PPPs available on the market at the level of the distributor and the user. In addition, food safety monitoring agencies, and producer and marketing organisations also control agricultural products for residues of unauthorized substances.

But none of this stops the global counterfeiting industry from turning its attention to drugs and Plant Protection Products. What's certain is that:

Unauthorized PPPs are illegal. Counterfeits and illegal use adversely affect all players in the market, and generally undermine public trust in our food.

This is where you can learn more:

www.bvl.bund.de » Specialist press releases » Amendments to the Plant Protection Law
www.pflanzenschutzdienst.de » Agriculture » Plant Protection Services » New arrangements (...)
www.nap-pflanzenschutz.de » Basic principles
You can also ask your supplier about the new provisions

What is the risk to the environment, the consumer, and your business?

The risks extend from agriculture to the consumer. This is why PPPs are subject to strict regulations, which became even stricter in 2012. **Illegal products, on the other hand, have not been regulated by anyone.** The main risks include crop damage, with all its economic disadvantages, and illegal residues in secondary products and foods.



Let's look at the route from the potato to the potato crisp:

A desiccant might be used to facilitate harvesting and weed control. One litre costs around €50 on the market, meaning a €50 per hectare outlay at an application rate of 1 liter.

Let's assume that a PPP of dubious origin is 30% cheaper. That's a saving of 16 €. The field of one hectare yields 40 t of potatoes.

This results in 10 tons of potato crisps, packed into 50,000 bags of 200 g, each priced at € 1.79. Thus the retailer's revenue is about €90,000.

But what happens if it is found at a later stage that the food is contaminated with illegal substances?

This would lead to 50,000 bags of crisps being recalled and disposed of – goods with a value of about € 90,000.

Saving:
16 €



Risk:



90.000 €

The cost of the recall action comes on top of this, along with the inestimable loss of image. The farmer alone carries the liability, as the producer and the supplier are unlikely to be found again.

Is it worth using a pesticide of dubious origin for a saving of €16?

Which changes do the new EU regulation on the approval of plant protection products and the new German plant protection law bring?

The most important changes are:

Disposal is a duty

The following has applied since 2008: banned PPPs and those for which the approval has expired or been revoked must be destroyed. Since 2012, this is also relevant to premiums in the context of Cross Compliance: failure to dispose of products within 1 year of their ban on use can lead to a reduction in direct payments to the farmer.

More specialist knowledge is required

Education and training are becoming ever more important. From purchasing, product advice and sales through to application, everyone who handles PPPs requires a certificate of competence. This also involves taking follow-up training every 3 years.

Consequences for violations

As in the past: you lose the privilege of being able to produce QS and Global Gap goods, and direct payments can be reduced. What's new is the element of criminal offense: import and trading of banned PPPs, the use of non-authorized substances, and the import and trading of counterfeit pesticides can lead to prison terms of up to 5 years.

Import for own use

If you want to import PPPs for use on your own farm, you need a permit from the BVL, which can be issued for products that are identical to registered products. Please send your application to the BVL.

Internet purchase and orders by fax or telephone

You can play it safely by ordering only from the suppliers you know. Anonymous suppliers can distribute illegal pesticides without risk to themselves. It's you who bears the risk.