

Press Release

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Nufarm phenoxy herbicides European symposium

Nufarm have hosted a symposium on phenoxy herbicides in Budapest following the very successful chlorotoluron meeting in Brussels last year.

A total of 283 technical managers, sales managers and agronomists from 25 European and two North African countries attended the two day symposium at the Kempinski Hotel, Budapest

Phenoxy herbicides are a group of herbicides which mimic the activity of a natural plant hormone called auxin. Examples of this chemistry are mecoprop-p, dichlorprop-p, 2,4-D and MCPA. These herbicides were discovered in the UK and United States more than 60 years ago but they are as relevant today in modern farming as they were then. Unlike many modern actives there have been very few signs of resistance.

Phenoxies have now been re-registered to the highest up-to-date standard under European legislation in most European countries including the UK

The main uses include cereals where phenoxies are frequently used alone or in mixtures to control specific weed problems. In grassland there is still a limited choice of actives and phenoxy herbicides still play the main role. In southern Europe they are often used in orchards and olives

In common with all crop protection products these valuable actives must be used with care as they are soluble in water and very low levels of some of these products have been detected in watercourses. Some simple precautions can be used to help prevent this from happening. Advice can be found on the Voluntary Initiative website www.voluntaryinitiative.org.uk

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