

STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE AT UPL COLUMBIA



As global leaders of our industry, we have taken a committed stand toward promoting the responsible use of our products, pesticide education, and guiding related public policies in the markets we are present in. Collectively, these actions represent our stewardship efforts, which in turn are part of a larger picture, wherein the other key players are farmers and/or pesticide applicators, consultants, policy regulators, etc.

UPL Colombia has been blazing new trails in UPL's stewardship story. Their initiatives include:

- Collecting empty pesticide containers
- End-user training on safe and effective use of pesticides
- Counterfeiting controls
- The "Aplique Bien (Spray Well)" program
- Custody of key molecules such as Mancozeb, Glyphosate and Propanil
- Service contact centre to provide customer advice

Education and training on Responsible use of pesticides is a core component of UPL Colombia's efforts, it includes educating stakeholders about every aspect of pesticide use – its transportation, storage, usage, and disposal. To this end, UPL Colombia trained and reached out to more than 6,056 farmers across 2019. Extensive and intensive training sessions were conducted regarding the proper and safe use of our product portfolio. Close to 13,000 farmers were sensitised regarding safe handling and proper disposal of empty containers. UPL Colombia partnered with ANDI's* Chamber of Crops Program and trained more than 7,365 farmers on important stewardship areas such as safe use, PPE - personal protection elements, application techniques and toxicology, among others.

The UPL Colombia team has also actively participated in an industry-led program called 'Campo Limpio'*. The program promotes the proper collection and disposal of pesticide containers. Careful emptying and rinsing of containers reduce concerns for human exposures and possible impact on wildlife and the environment. If paper or plastic containers are not properly emptied or rinsed, the container itself becomes a hazardous waste that can become potentially an expensive problem for farmers to tackle.

*Campo Limpio is a non-profit responsible management programme funded by leading agrochemical companies that have been in action for more than 17 years. In Colombia, the scheme focuses on promoting the adequate collection and disposal of empty agrochemical containers to protect the environment and the health of local communities.

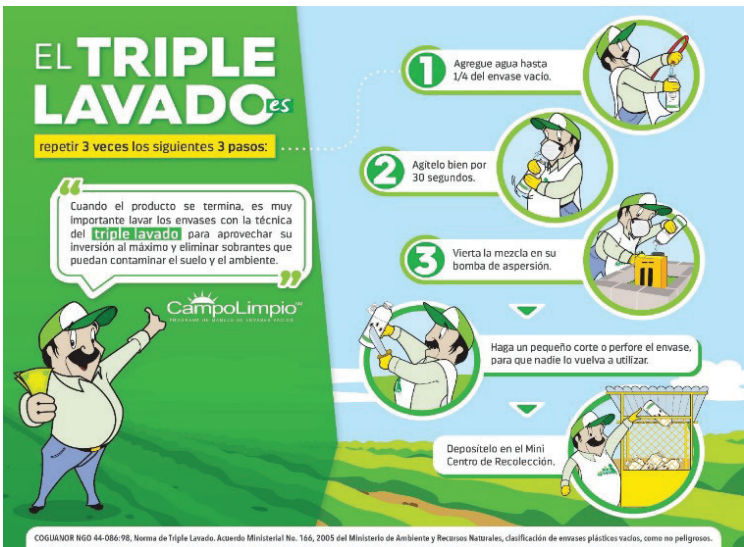


FIGURE 4: CAMPO LIMPIO TRAINING - CONTAINER MANAGEMENT

In 2019, UPL Colombia, responsibly disposed of more than 76% of the containers placed on the fields using environmentally sound technologies. Furthermore, farmers were also educated regarding the 'triple washing technique', essential when emptying and prior to disposal of pesticide containers. The technique does not call for any special equipment and can be used with plastic, non-pressurized metal, and glass containers.

The Triple Wash is the first step for a correct final disposition of the empty pesticide containers. In it, the user must:

- Drain the container
- Add clean water up to 1/4 of the container and close container tightly
- Shake for 30 seconds
- Pour more water into the mixture
- Repeat the procedure 3 times
- Finally, pierce the container to avoid reuse and prevent counterfeiting
- Remember do not bury, burn, or reuse the containers, and do not mix them with ordinary waste

Triple washing in pesticide management ensures 100% usage of the pesticide, reduces the risk of using empty containers, guarantees the safe and rational disposal of containers and does not pose a threat to the user, animals, or people in general.

In its continuous efforts to strengthen its programs and to adapt safe and healthy procedures, UPL Colombia has also conducted virtual training for the entire sales force in Colombia and Ecuador on various topics, safe driving, product toxicology and labelling of agrochemical products.

UPL Colombia proudly continues with UPL stewardship commitment by carrying out its strong advocacy for the safe use and proper management of agrochemicals in all its regions of operations. Ensuring that UPL is a committed partner in ensuring sustainable and safe agriculture for all.



POTATO GROWING APPLICATION - VILLA PINZON & PPE TRAINING

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