

A White Paper on Pesticides use in the world and India

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To the surprise of many, here is the authentic information about pesticides consumption in India vis-à-vis other countries.

India has the largest area (**141 million ha**) under agricultural crops.

India is the second largest agricultural producer (**\$367 bn**) in the world.

India accounts for **1.7%** of the global pesticides use.

The European Union accounts for **>11%** of global pesticides use.

The European Union uses **>600%** higher pesticides than India.

Many countries in the EU such as Spain, France and Italy who have much smaller area under agriculture and produce much less when compared to India use more pesticide than India.

Japan that has <5 million ha under agriculture (compared to India's 141 mill.ha) uses over 53000 tons - very close to India's consumption of 60280 tons. The intensity and frequency of use of pesticides in Japan is very high when compared to India.

It is so in many other countries. But the perception created by the foreign funded NGOs is that in India there is excessive use of pesticides.

This is a false allegation and it totally lacks empirical support.

Countries in the EU are the main source of funds for the environmental activists based in India.

The agenda of these foreign funded NGOs is clear. It is to tarnish the image of Indian agriculture globally as desired by their donors.

Top 15 Countries in Agricultural Production (2014)			Top 15 Countries in Pesticides Use (2014)		
Rank	Country	Agricultural Production (Billion USD)	Rank	Country	Pesticides Use (Tons)
1	China	1005	1	China	1807000
2	India	367	2	USA	536146
3	USA	279	3	Brazil	352336
4	Brazil	130	4	Argentina	207706
5	Nigeria	122	5	Mexico	98814
6	Indonesia	122	6	Ukraine	78201
7	Russia	82	7	Canada	76314
8	Turkey	67	8	France	75339
9	Pakistan	60	9	Columbia	73744
10	Japan	57	10	Spain	61067
11	Argentina	56	11	India	60280
12	Australia	55	12	Italy	58825
13	France	49	13	Japan	53544
14	Italy	47	14	Malaysia	49199
15	Thailand	46	15	Germany	45836
	World	4771		World	3528985

Source : www.statisticetimes.com

Source : FAOSTAT, USEPA

Pesticides (Tech) Consumption in European Union

Particulars	2012	2014
EU- 28(Total)	366506	395768
The Top 5 consumers		
1 Spain	63491	78818
2 France	63830	75288
3 Italy	61818	64071
4 Germany	45521	46078
5 Poland	21874	23551

Value: Metric tons

Source: Eurostat

Observations:

Of the **3.52 million tons** of pesticides (active ingredient) used in the world, the highest pesticides consuming countries are:

China>USA>EU>Brazil>Argentina

Together, these countries account for **90%** of the pesticides used globally.

The purpose of this white paper is not to present a case against pesticides use. Pesticides are essential tools in farming in protecting the crops against pests and diseases and their role is at par with medicines in human society. The purpose of this paper is to bring out solid facts regarding pesticides

consumption in India vs. rest of the world and to expose the false propaganda by foreign funded NGOs active in India. Because of their scare mongering and smear campaign, our agricultural exports suffer considerable prejudice and discrimination in the international trade.

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