

KEY MESSAGING FOR INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS – CROP PROTECTION

TALKING POINTS:

When in doubt, think Connect (why is it important to YOU?), Contrast (what's missing?), Solve (how can the government help?)

If nothing else, we want Parliamentarians to remember:

- **Connect:** Crop protection tools are vitally important to the fresh fruit and vegetable industry to ensure the long-term health and security of our crops and Canada's food system.
- **Contrast:** The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the Pest Management Centre (PMC) need critical resources and a modernized regulatory system to be able to conduct thorough scientific reviews and make science- and data-based conclusions that protect the health of Canadians and our environment, without stifling economic competitiveness.
- **Solve:** The government's crop protection policies and programs must support market access and promote economic viability and competitiveness. Critical funding and resources are needed to ensure that the PMRA and PMC can meet their mandate to make science-based decisions and address the long-term needs of Canadian growers.



WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR (*outlined in Parliamentary brochure*)

- Grant the PMC a critically needed \$5 million budget increase, with appropriate inflationary increases yearly, to both support new uses of crop protection products and pest management strategies and address the supporting research backlog caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increase essential funding for the PMRA and its initiatives, most especially the newly developed Integrated Approach to re-evaluations.
- Provide immediate funding to the PMRA to administer a national water monitoring program for pesticide residues in order to provide critical and robust information for risk assessments and trend analysis. As the Canada Water Agency is developed, Environment and Climate Change Canada must work closely with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada and PMRA to meet the long-term needs of Canadian growers.