

<http://www.endseuropedaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=24766>

France Bans Sales of Harmful Pesticides

ENDS Europe Daily

(ISSUE 2476 - February 4, 2008) — The French government has introduced a ban on sales of harmful pesticides as part of a plan to halve pesticide use in agriculture over ten years. The ban entered force on 1 February following a consultation with industry and agricultural associations.

Thirty active substances used in 1,500 products are now prohibited, the government announced last week. These include controversial herbicide paraquat (EED 11/07/07) and fenarimol and procymidone, two substances currently permitted under EU law, albeit temporarily (EED 15/12/06).

ENDS understands that many manufacturers are already using alternatives. Sales of existing stocks will be allowed until April. French farmers will be able to use the substances for another eight months except for three – carben-dazime, molinate and dinocap – that are exempted until the end of 2009.

The ban was agreed last year by stakeholders as part of a major consultation on France's future environmental policy (EED 25/10/07). A further 20 active substances will be banned by the end of the year, the government says.

Follow-up:

French agriculture ministry (<http://agriculture.gouv.fr/>) plus press release (<http://www.endseuropedaily.com/docs/80204a.doc>).

PARIS (January 29, 2008) — COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE Plan ECOPHYTO 2018: The list of 30 pesticides banned as of February 1: alachlore, endosulfan, paraquat, aldicarbe, fenbutatin oxyde, parathion-méthyl, azinphos-methyl, fenpropathrine, procymidone, azocyclotin, fenthion, terbufos, cadusaphos, féna-rimol, tolyfluanide, carbofuran, fluquinconazole, trifluraline, chlorfenvinphos, méthamidophos vinchlozoline coumafène, méthidathion, dichlorvos, méthomyl, diuron oxydéméton-méthyl, Carbendazime, Molinate, dinocap.