

Why Pesticides Matter



Pesticides help farmers produce abundant, safe, quality foods at affordable prices.

Globally, crops must compete in fields with the following damaging pests:



3,700+

types of weeds¹



8,000+

fungi and fungal-like species²



600+

types of insects³

In storage, insects, mold, and rodents can also cause damage.

26-40% of the world's potential crop production is lost annually to pests and diseases.^{4,5}



Up to **75%** of fruits and vegetables could be lost **without the use of pesticides!**⁶



The U.S. food and agriculture sector directly supports **24 million U.S. jobs**, including millions of manufacturing jobs. Overall, agriculture is responsible for **\$9.5 trillion in American economic activity.**⁷

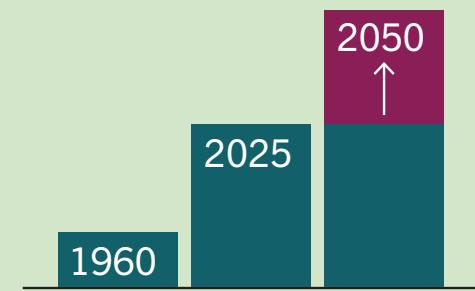
Since 1960



By 2050

The production of major crops has **tripled with the help of pesticides.**⁸

Growers will **need to produce up to 70% more food to feed 9 billion+ people.**⁹



Pesticides:

- ✓ Help farmers grow more food on less land and raise productivity per acre.¹⁰
- ✓ Decrease harmful micro-organisms and naturally occurring toxins on crops, preventing food-related illnesses.¹⁰

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References:

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