WHY DO YOU KEEP IT CLEAN ON YOUR FARM?

Keep it Clean is a joint initiative of the Canola Council of Canada, Pulse Canada, Cereals Canada, Barley Council of Canada and Prairie Oat Growers Association, providing growers with tips and tools for growing crops that meet the requirements of our domestic and export customers. You can find helpful information on the use of crop protection products, along with agronomic practices to reduce market risk, at keepingitclean.ca.

We talked to farmers and asked them a simple question "Why do you keep it clean on your farm?" Here are their responses:

Corey Loessin, Radisson, SK – Grows canola, lentils, oats, peas and wheat
The primary driver is to produce the highest quality product we can. In addition, export markets that either have tighter tolerances, or no tolerance, established for crop protection products, is something we certainly need to pay attention to. We need to be aware of which products may have special concerns around them.

Before we do anything as far as application of a product, we would check out Keep it Clean's advisories to make sure what we're going to do is all okay. That may involve also checking with exporters where we intend to sell the products.

We need to pay attention on an ongoing basis, not just once a year, but regularly to see what the Keep it Clean advisories have highlighted as products to pay particular attention to.

Everyone needs to take responsibility. Because everyone depends on the same markets, essentially right? We're producing food, so it has to be clean.

Learn more about the use of acceptable pesticides at https://keepingitclean.ca/acceptable-pesticides.

Jason Lenz, Bentley, AB – Grows barley, canola, faba beans and wheat
Well, that's a pretty easy question. It's really important to me at the end of the day, at the end of harvest, that I have a crop or a commodity that is marketable and is safe and healthy as a food type. It's really just about doing the right thing as far as best management practices.

In particular, the last three years or so, we've had so many different trade barriers that came our way; everything from the dockage issue in canola to glyphosate in malt barley. The use of glyphosate at harvest, I think, is probably the issue that has the biggest spotlight right now, for sure. As growers, we really don't want to lose that tool because if you do have a weed problem in your fields, glyphosate can be a very effective way of getting it under control.

Learn more and find resources to grow market-ready crops at https://keepingitclean.ca/
This program is funded through the AgriMarketing Program through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal, provincial, territorial initiative.