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Syngenta to cease global production of herbicide paraquat by end-June

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Syngenta, a world leader in agricultural technology, today announced it will cease global production of the herbicide paraquat by end-June. The decision reflects significant competition from generic producers around the world, which has eroded Syngentaâ??s competitiveness in the production of this herbicide.

Following an asset review, a program has now been initiated to phase out the production of paraquat at Syngentaâ??s Huddersfield, UK, site â?? its only manufacturing facility for this active ingredient globally. A small scale, multi-product production unit at the site will also close.

Syngenta will continue to assess future investment opportunities at the site to enable the production of advanced solutions. Syngenta has recently completed a GBP50 million investment to manufacture one of its most advanced crop protection technologies, PLINAZOLINÂ® technology, at the site. The UK remains an important location for Syngenta, which employs more than 2,000 people across 6 sites primarily focused on R&D, production and supply.

Paraquat is highly effective in controlling weeds and enables conservation agricultural practices such as no-till farming, remaining an essential component of the farming toolbox for many growers. First brought to market by a Syngenta predecessor company more than sixty years ago, paraquat is today a generic herbicide that is registered for sale by more than 750 companies. Syngenta sells this herbicide in just a

few markets around the world, and it accounts for less than 1 percent of Syngentaâ??s global sales.

Syngentaâ??s decision to cease paraquat production is in line with its focus on innovation, and its commitment to bring new solutions that elevate the productivity and sustainability of agriculture. Syngenta offers growers an extensive range of agricultural solutions ranging from quality seeds and seed treatments, agricultural biologicals, advanced crop protection technologies and an expanding offer of AI-enabled digital and precision agriculture solutions.

â??This decision is about focusing our resources where they deliver the greatest value for our business and our customers,â?• said Mike Hollands, President Syngenta UK and Head of Syngenta Global Production and Supply.

Syngenta affirms that paraquat is safe when used in line with registered label instructions, and will work with its partners, customers and employees in relevant markets to ensure a smooth transition