

Heavy metals in soils: fertilizer labelling guarantees informed choices



The problem

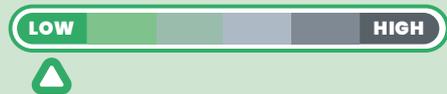
Heavy metals are penetrating the food chain



Heavy metals are naturally present in soil but, at high concentration levels, they are harmful for plants, animals, and people.



Fertilizers that are added to soil to provide nutrients have a wide variance of cadmium levels



Regulatory limits exist in many countries but there is a lack of information to help farmers make informed choices



In 2021, the European Commission adopted a regulation encouraging the usage of voluntary 'green' label for fertilizers with a cadmium content below 20 mg/kg P₂O₅.

Fertilizer labelling enables farmers to make clearer decisions about what goes into their soil (and ultimately into our food).