

African agro groups condemn wrong use of agrochemicals

From **John Akubo**, Kano

African agro groups of agrochemicals have condemned the use of their products for applications other than what they were produced for. It said it is inimical and counter productive due to the attendant health hazards associated with noncompliance with the safety standards stipulated by the company.

The company said it had

observed that some of its products are applied for the control of mosquitoes by some households without observing the time duration they are expected to stay out of the enclosure to avoid the attendant health hazards associated with inhaling the poisonous chemical products.

Mr. Billy H. Joseph the administrative manager of the company who gave the indication in an interview at the company's corporate headquarters at Shamatanka

House Kano said although it does the job of killing mosquitoes, the possible danger such users are prone to far outweigh the benefit of getting rid of the mosquitoes without observing the safety standard.

In his words, "in this company the health of the

farmers is of very serious concern for us, in as much as we want the farmers to benefit from these chemicals to better their yields which is our primary concern, and to help reduce the cost the farmers encounter as they attempt to produce these food products, we will look

at their health, their health is very important, the farmer himself must be there and must be healthy before he can think of putting all the necessary ingredients together to achieve what he wants. "So we go further to carry out extension services, to teach the farmers first of

all the safety rules and to highlight the dangers involved in the misuse of these chemicals, so the first thing they have to know is that they have to operate based on the safety standards of these chemicals before they can be beneficial to them on the long run."

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