Pest Management Strategies in Crop Protection

October 1979

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FOREWORD

This report assesses the array of tactics used to control pests of agricultural crops in the United States.

The assessment was requested by Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The Office of Technology Assessment was assisted by an advisory panel of scientists, farmers, consumers, and representatives of industry and public interest groups. Nine working groups were commissioned to carry out the major objectives of the assessment. The work was supplemented by a 2-day public participation meeting in which the assessment panel members and the public exchanged views and concerns regarding present crop protection methods. In addition, critical reviews of the draft reports were provided by Federal officials, and a wide spectrum of interested individuals. To all of these people OTA offers sincere thanks.

This report is in two volumes. Volume I is the summary report and is based on the OTA-commissioned studies conducted by each of the nine working groups, panel discussions including the 2-day public meeting, extensive staff work, and outside reviewers’ comments. Volume II is the collection of indepth studies from which volume I was prepared, and is intended to be used as background and reference material for those who need additional details. The transcript of the 2-day public meeting is also included in volume II.

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