



## Media Release

Friday 21 August 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **drumMUSTER from Strength to Strength**

It would surprise most that despite the increased use of returnable Enviro drums and IBCs by farmers that both the sales, and more importantly, the collection rates for non returnable chemical drums in WA continues to rise.

With the increased emphasis on cropping throughout WA it is very encouraging that more manufacturers are signing up to the **drumMUSTER** program, which ensures that more drums are returned.

Improved collection rates are linked to improved access to the **drumMUSTER** program. There are now 29 southern and 7 northern collection sites where farmers can deliver drums when the tip or transfer station is open, or, on set days throughout the week. This number will continue to rise over the next 2 years as councils in remote country regions move to managed waste facilities.

Community group involvement is also having a positive impact on the collection rates with over 20 groups now reaping the rewards of being involved in the program.

During the second half of September most **drumMUSTER** collection points will be running collections and farmers are urged to take advantage of the program and move stockpiles of drums off the farm to be recycled "We are seeing a shift in farmers' thinking. They are generally no longer willing to bury or burn chemical drums and are looking instead to the **drumMUSTER** program as an alternative which is much better for farm management and for the environment." said Graeme Passmore, Consultant

An increasing number of farmers are working with **drumMUSTER** to rid their farm of chemical drum stockpiles with approximately 55,000 drums removed from farms in WA during 2008-09. Since the implementation of the program in 1999 over 13.5 million containers which equates to over 18,000 tonnes of product, have been collected and recycled through **drumMUSTER**

The program operates through Agsafe Ltd which is a non-government, not-for-profit organization. For further information on **drumMUSTER** please phone: Graeme Passmore (Southern WA) on 0429 933 307 or Bevan Henderson (northern WA) on 0429 089 780.

**drumMUSTER** is Australia's most extensive environmental program for the collection and recycling of agricultural and veterinary chemical containers. (Contact 1800 008 707 or visit [www.drummuster.com.au](http://www.drummuster.com.au))

ChemClear® is the national program for the collection and safe disposal of unwanted ag and vet chemicals. (Contact 1800 008 182 or visit [www.chemclear.com.au](http://www.chemclear.com.au))