



## **Gianessi to Lead Crop Protection Research Institute**

*Brings Expertise in Public Policy and Economic Research to the Foundation*

Washington, DC -- CropLife Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Leonard Gianessi as the director of the Crop Protection Research Institute (CPRI), a newly-formed unit of the CropLife Foundation effective Jan. 11, 2004.

Gianessi, former program director and senior research associate at the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy (NCFAP), a private non-profit, non-advocacy research organization, will focus CPRI's research on the use and economic benefits of pesticides in U.S. crop production, as well as help define a new area of research: estimating the economic effects of domestic pesticide regulation.

"We are truly honored to have Gianessi, a top expert on pesticide research, join our team," said CropLife Foundation Chairman of the Board Jay Vroom. "His research has helped delineate and develop improved biotechnology, pesticide, international trade and development, and farm and food policy guidelines based on sound, peer-reviewed science."

On behalf of CPRI, Gianessi plans to release a series of research papers covering a broad array of pesticide regulatory and economic issues based on a continuation of his research activities of the past decade at NCFAP.

"I'm very pleased to accept this new position because of the close match between my research interests and those of the CropLife Foundation," said Gianessi. "The independence and non-advocacy status of the CropLife Foundation is a real advantage. I am looking forward to working with the foundation's board of directors in carrying out our mission."

Douglas Nelson who serves as president of the foundation said he is excited by the potential synergies that Gianessi brings to the foundation.

"A focused research program will facilitate timely research studies that will help inform the public, regulators, the press and legislators regarding the realities of crop protection economics in the United States, said Nelson. "The unique set of organizational ties and expertise of the CPRI should be of considerable interest to other foundations that fund public policy research."

Accompanying Gianessi in the move from NCFAP to CPRI is Nathan Reigner, research associate.

CropLife Foundation was created in 2001 to promote and advance sustainable agriculture and the environmentally sound use of crop protection products and bioengineered agriculture. Through sound science-based discovery, the organization will help global agriculture economically produce safe, high quality, abundant food, fiber, and other crops, thus ensuring food security and alleviating poverty, suffering, and hardship.

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