

Antibiotic Use in Crop Production Is Far More Widespread than Previously Thought

Overuse of antibiotics has led to antibiotic resistance becoming prevalent, leading to a global crisis in healthcare



However, antibiotic use in crop production is poorly regulated and poorly documented



“Plantwise” supports extension service in 32 low- and middle-income countries in six regions to provide assistance to farmers...



...and trains agricultural advisors and promotes plant clinics

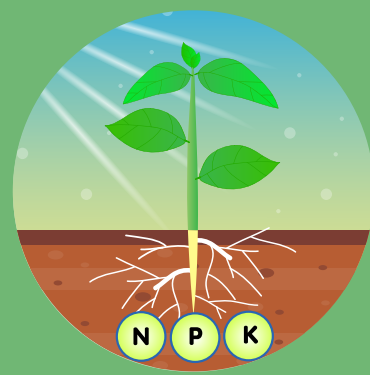
Plant clinics help to diagnose and manage:



Insects and mites



Pathogens



Nutrient deficiencies

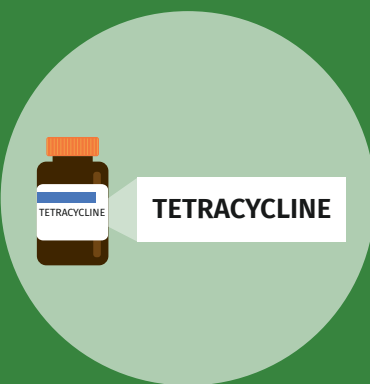
Data from the clinics are stored; CABI holds half a million records

11 countries from 4 of the 5 WHO regions studied recommended antibiotic use on crops, but no use was recorded in Africa



Antibiotics were recommended for use on over 100 crops, with over 10% of the rice crops receiving an antibiotic in some countries

Two of the most widely recommended antibiotics are of clinical importance, potentially increasing the spread of antibiotic-resistant infections



International cooperation is required to ensure antibiotic use is regulated so that antibiotics are used appropriately without spreading resistance