

## **EIGHT TONNES OF BANNED PESTICIDES SEIZED IN NORTH BATINAH: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES**

Muscat Daily staff writer | September 06, 2018

MUSCAT -

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MoAF) seized eight tonnes of banned pesticides in North Batinah recently.

Speaking to Muscat Daily, Eng Mahmood al Nabhani, director of Plant Protection Department, MoAF, said, “The inspection team of the ministry seized eight tonnes of prohibited pesticides recently. The stock was stored in a residential neighbourhood in the wilayat of Sohar.”

Talking about the objectives of the ministry's campaign, he said, “The campaign aimed at urging farmers to stop the use of banned pesticides and abide by pesticide laws of the ministry.

“Storage of prohibited pesticides in residential areas is illegal. Such pesticides pose a danger to the population of that area because they are toxic and flammable. Unfortunately, some farmers buy these banned pesticides because they are cheap. Others believe that such pesticides increase crop production.”

He added, “We wish that Omani farmers took care of their farms by themselves, not leaving them in the hands of expatriates. They should also abide by the pesticide laws of MoAF. The farmers should also take advantage of the ministry's guidelines in the use of agricultural pesticides.

“MoAF continues to monitor the use of pesticides in all the wilayats of the sultanate and cooperates with other governmental bodies such as the ROP and the Public Prosecution to prevent the use of illegal pesticides.”