

Pesticides Insight Sheet

Worksheet

Pros

- Pesticides allow farmers to grow more crops
- Pesticides allow farmers to better predict how their crops will grow
- Pesticides allow crops to be produced cheaply because the farmer needs to do less work to keep their crops growing
- Pesticides can kill off mosquitos, which can help prevent some diseases
- Pesticides are easily available in many countries and are inexpensive
- Pesticides allow farmers to use less water and land to grow their crops, which can reduce their carbon impact

Cons

- Pesticides can cause soil pollution
- Pesticides can kill other insects as well as those they are designed to target. For example they can have an effect on the bee population.
- Pesticides can affect the groundwater and cause pollution that needs to be carefully managed to stop it getting into the water system
- Insects can adapt and become resistant to pesticides over time; meaning stronger ones are needed
- Pesticides can be dangerous to apply so farmers need to wear PPE
- Pesticides can get in to other crops nearby

