



Operation BLACKJACK

Case study from Slovakia



Criminal Office of Financial Administration

- is the only investigation body in the Slovak Republic responsible for investigation of the illegal import of goods according to Criminal Code and Criminal procedure code
- According to Section 254 Criminal Code

Breach of Regulations Governing Imports and Exports of Goods

- (1) Any person whose action gives rise to considerable endangering of public interest by breaching the prohibition or the restriction imposed on the import, export or transit of goods shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of up to two years.
- (2) Any person who by larger amount curtails the payment of or fails to pay a customs duty or other payment levied pursuant to the law on imported goods shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of between six months and three years.
- (3) The offender shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of one to five years if he commits the offence referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2 with at least two more persons.
- (4) The offender shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of three to eight years if he commits the offence referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2,
 - a) and causes substantial damage or other particularly serious consequence through its commission, or
 - b) acting in a more serious manner.
- (5) The offender shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of seven to twelve years if he commits the offence referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2,
 - a) and causes large-scale damage through its commission, or
 - b) as a member of a dangerous grouping.

Damage in the criminal procedure is custom value of the products



Prelude to operation

Random custom control close to the Slovak Ukrainian border in August 2018

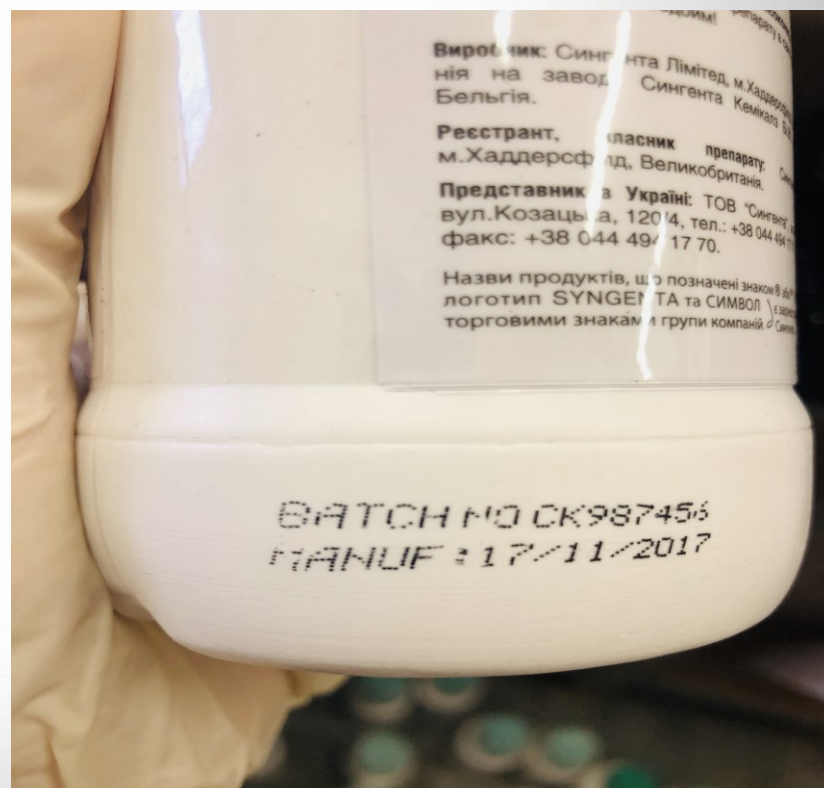
- Seizure of 200 pieces of pesticide AKTARA 0,25 lit. (rounded bottles)





Analyse of seizure

- Cooperation with Syngenta and their statement according to the BATCH No.
- Had never been imported by Syngenta Slovakia Ltd.
- ✓ One of the fine counterfeit





Investigation

From august to December 2018 and still going on

- operational checkings, informators in the field of farmers and official distributors of pesticide
- selection of suspects leaded investigation to the area close to the official distributor and importer from Ukraine
- ongoing investigation, analyses of the bank accounts and suspicious bank operations
- enormus amount of bank transactions from all over the world (UAE)
- selection places of intrests used for terminal storage of illegal pesticides before being shipped to the customer
- first evidences of illegal distribution of pesticides KRUIZER Syngenta





Investigation

First period of operation

- Illegal subdistributors captured in december 2018 in town Michalovce (30 km from the Slovak Ukraine Border), ready for the shipment !

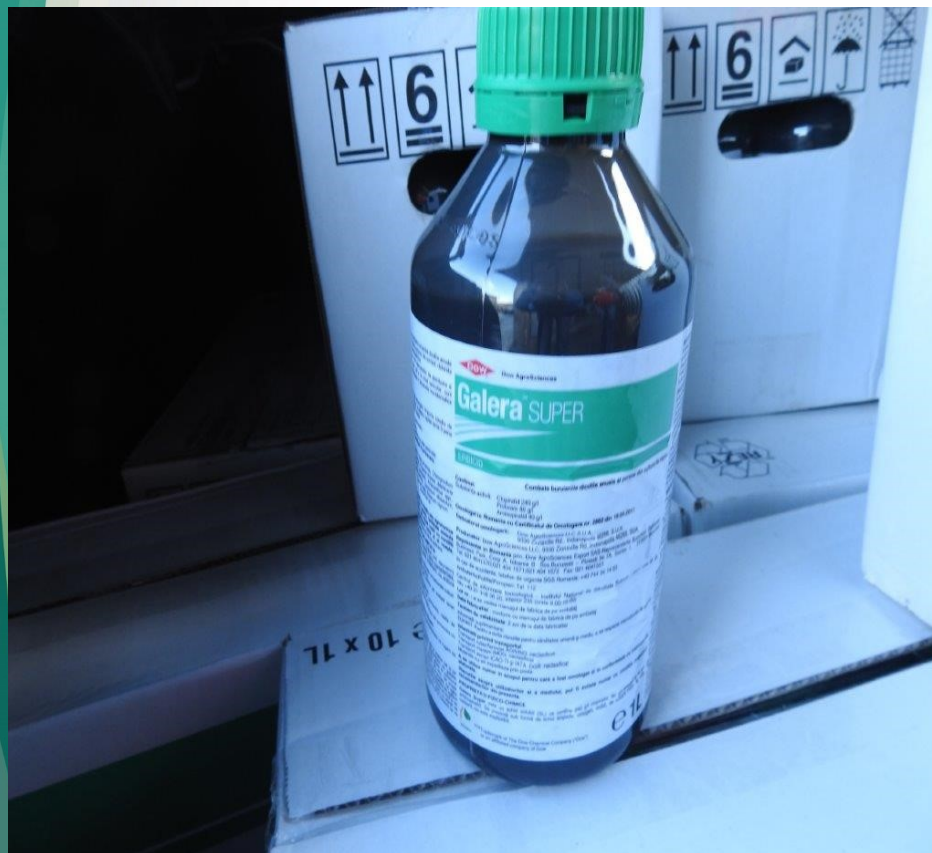




Investigation

Galera SUPER – DowAgroSciences produced in Romania

- not authorised in Slovak Republic, illegal import from Ukraine
- unloaded car with 180 liters of Galera SUPER





Investigation

Later garage search revealed other illegal pesticides

☐ CEZAR 1 lit. bottles – ADAMA, AKTARA 0,25 lit. bottles – SYNGENTA, both declared being produced in Ukraine and extra Galera SUPER – DowAgroSciences produced in Romania

All of them are not authorised in Slovak Republic, illegal import from Ukraine

Summary seizure:

- ✓ Galera Super – 670 litres
- ✓ AKTARA – 100 litres (401 bottles per 0,25 lit)
- ✓ CEZAR – 159 litres
- ✓ 929 litres

- ✓ And cigarettes JIN LING also.



Investigation

Squared bottles of AKTARA (fake products)





Investigation

Galera Super (not authorized)





Investigation

CEZAR KE - ADAMA





Investigation

Close ups – squared bottle unlike the first seizure rounded bottle





It suppose to be original from Romanian market (sent to the lab in Poland)





Investigation

Close ups





Investigation

Interrogation of captured subdistributor (Ukrainian citizen – deported from the Slovak Republic in the year 2008 for a three years, now captured with changed first and last name) led to further revelation that had been confirmed by another garage search with another illegal and unauthorised pesticides

- ☐ MOSPILAN 130 packs 1 kg each and another evidence
- ☐ Some packs with product label MOSPILAN some without
- ☐ Extra product labels yet not stuck on
- ☐ Measuring cups of other products like TITUS (herbicide) and GRANSTAR PRO (herbicide)

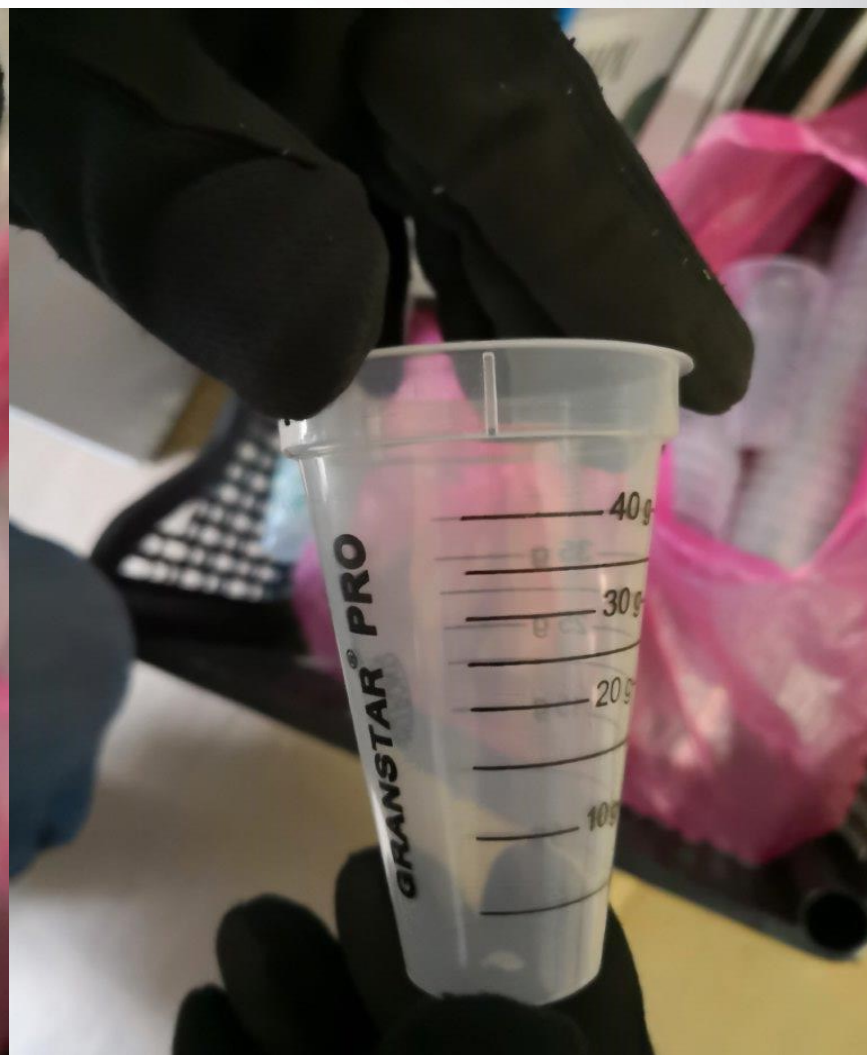
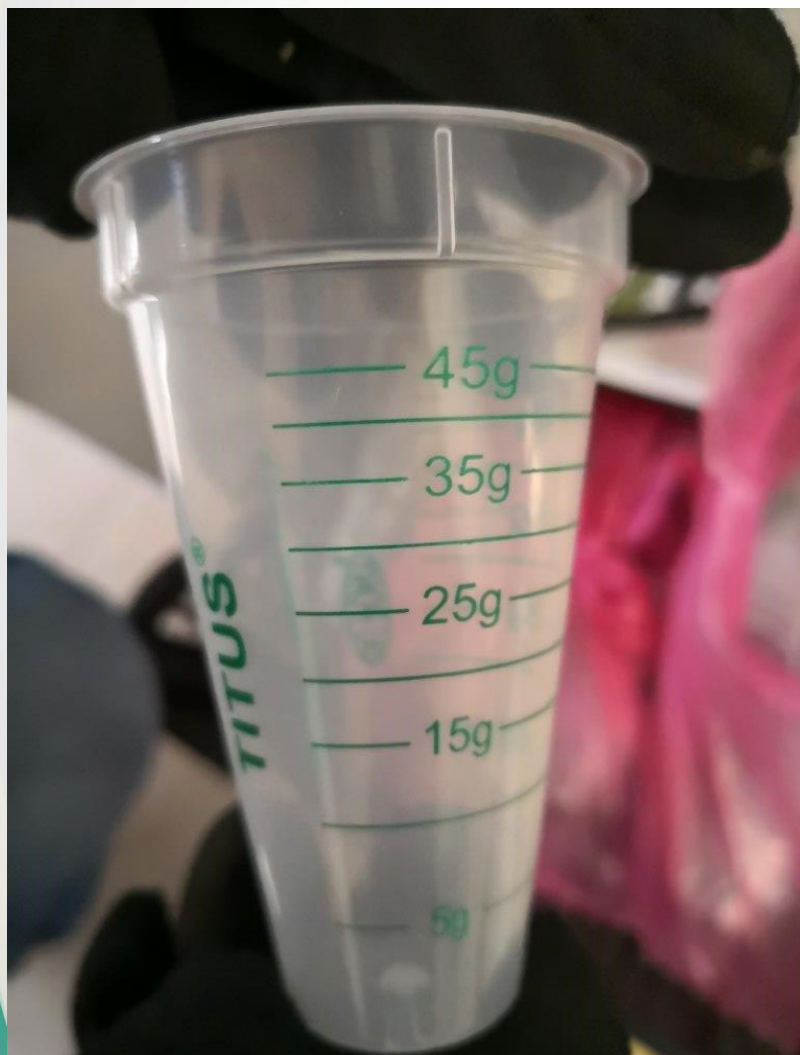


Investigation





Investigation





Investigation

Once there has not been proved breaching of Regulations Governing Imports of pesticides according to section 254 Criminal Code our investigation is being passed to the Police of the Slovak Republic that would qualify it (according to the Crime Code) as

Endangering and Damaging the Environment

Section 300

(1) Any person who wilfully creates the danger of smaller environmental damage by violating generally binding legal environmental protection regulations or the rules of protection and management of natural resources including natural healing resources and natural resources of mineral table water shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of up to three years.

(4) The offender shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of three to eight years if he commits the offence referred to in paragraph 1, and causes substantial environmental damage through its commission.

(5) The offender shall be liable to a term of imprisonment of four to ten years if he commits the offence referred to in paragraph 1, and causes large-scale environmental damage through its commission.

Damage in the criminal procedure is enviromental damage



Illegal import of pesticides at the Slovak Ukraine border

Bus line Mukacevo – Košice

- bus SETRA S215HD with built in toilet entering SR on 22th july 2019
- illegal import of pesticides in toilet bin, acces to sink from the trunk of the bus





Illegal import of pesticides at the Slovak Ukraine border

Seizure of

- Envidor – 14 litres
- Granstar Pro – 1 kg
- Impakt – 5 litres
- Aktara – 10 litres
- Capylso – 6 litres
- Kruyzer – 35 litres
- Coragen – 10 litres
- Caribou - 2,4 kg
- Kerti Zoldség trágya – 8 kg
- Mospilan – 50 kg
- Sanmadt z.p. – 5 kg
- Nurelle D - 80 litres

Total Custom value of good 26 416,77 €



Illegal import of pesticides at the Slovak Ukraine border

All together





Seizure of Illegal (fake) pesticides in Kosice

On 16th of July 2019 - Moldova car Mercedes Benz – with Romanian citizen

- ✓ Carried 50 litres of pesticides – CORAGEN 20 SC (produced by DUPONT)
- ✓ Hungarian labels
- ✓ Fake product

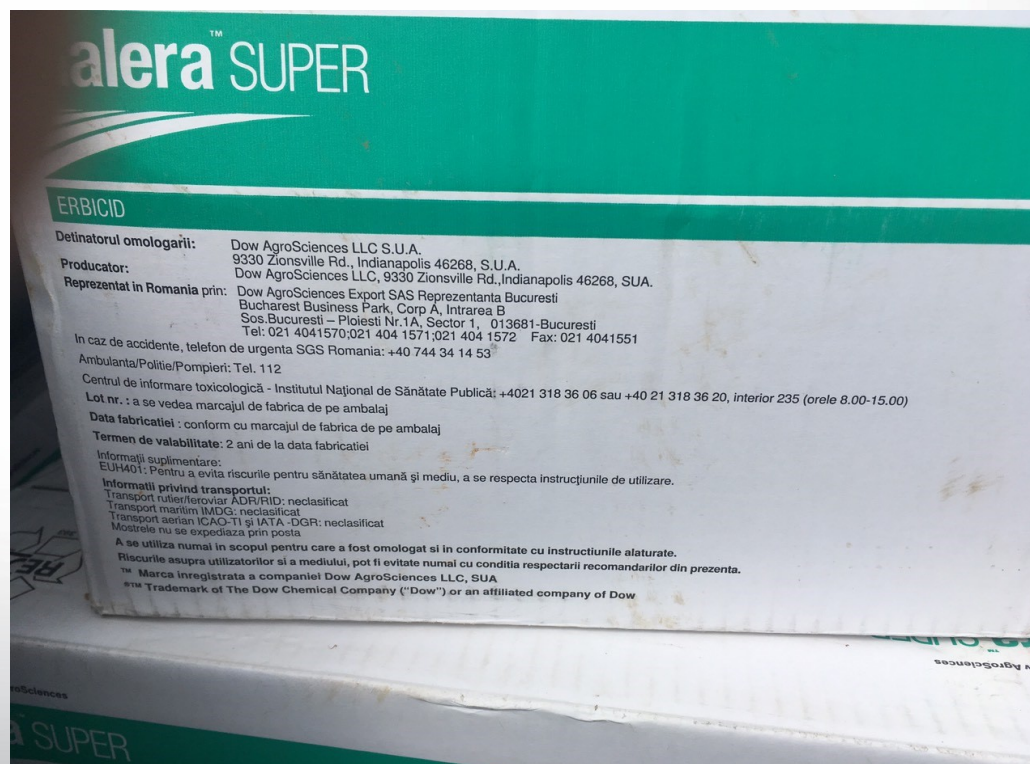




Seizure of Illegal pesticides close to Kosice

On 24th of June 2019 - Slovak citizen in private car

- ✓ Carried 80 litres of pesticides – Galera Super (produced by Dow Agro Sciences)
- ✓ English and Romanian labels
- ✓ Original product





Illegal import of pesticides Slovak Ukraine border

On 6th of september 2019 - Ukrainian citizen (driver of lorry)

- ✓ Carried 40 litres of pesticides – Coragen 20 SC - 10 liters and Kruiyzer 30 liters
- ✓ Russian labels
- ✓ Original products





Thank You for Your Attention !

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