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# **Copa-Cogeca's views on the role of Biological control agents**

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# Agenda

1. Who are Copa and Cogeca?
2. Future challenges
3. General context at farm level
4. State of play of bio pest control / IPM
5. **Some points of consideration for IBMA's work**
6. Conclusions

# Who are Copa and Cogeca?

- **Copa** – European farmers (1958)

Bringing together 56 EU farmers' organisations representing 28 million farmers and their families

- **Cogeca** – European agri-cooperatives (1959)

Bringing together 31 EU agri-cooperative organisations as well as around 38,000 cooperatives

# Future challenges



1. Scarce natural resources
2. Climate change
  - Development and spread of new plant diseases
  - Emerging risks (e.g. *Tuta Absoluta*)
  - Long-term climate changes
  - Increase in frequency and severity of extreme weather events
  - GHG emissions
3. Free market competition at EU and international level
4. Critical economic situation at farm level



**Europe urgently needs more green growth & employment**

# General context (I)

1. A significant number of active substances (ASs) had to be phased out of the market as they did not comply with the new legislative requirements
2. Changes to the EU MRLs system have accelerated such decline
3. Crop protection in some agricultural sectors is very much under threat (e.g. many major, specialty crops and minor uses)
4. Problems of resistance managements



## General context (II)

1. Crucial to reduce the risk posed by PPPs to human health and the environment
2. Ensure a wide range of instruments (e.g. chemicals, biologicals, **mechanicals, etc**) to meet consumers' expectations without **compromising farmers' competition**



**IPM principles becomes  
mandatory for all farmers by 1  
January 2014**

# State of play at farm level (I)

- For many crops biological pest control is already used on a regular basis. Degree of use may change from crop to crop
- Some examples :
  - use of pollinators in greenhouse crops
  - early warning systems
  - prevalence of natural predators over PPP
  - etc

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**Waarnemingen in bloemkool en broccoli**

**Koolvlies**  
In Antwerpen is het aantal koolvliegen gegrepen tot gemiddeld 15 koolvliegen per m<sup>2</sup> per vol. Het aantal gevangene koolvliegen blijft gelijk in West-Vlaanderen en Oost-Vlaanderen.

**Koolbladvlies (Pegomya brassicae)**  
In Antwerpen worden de meeste koolbladvlieg-gevangsten (tot gemiddeld 20 koolbladvliegen/haak). In Oost- en West-Vlaanderen worden weinig koolbladvliegen waargenomen.

**Van behandelingsbehoefte tot koolbladvlieg is aan te raken in de provincie Antwerpen. In Brussel, op de vlaktes, moet de koolvlieg worden beschermd.**

**Fluor** of deze vlieg mag worden vernietigd en/of overtuigd gemaakt door middel van Fluor. Hetgeen, mocht het op welke andere manier dan ook, zonder voldoende voldoende bescherming van de vlieg. PLOAT, PLOAT, PLOAT, en het vliegenvoer kunnen met deze vlieg worden voor eventuele schade, voortaan tot deze waarschuwing.

## DRC - advieskaart tomaat (onder bescherming)

Plagen	Biologische bestrijders	Correctiemiddelen	(actieve stof)	Wachtijd	Max. aantal toepassingen	Opmerkingen
Witte vlieg	sluipwesp Encarsia/Eretmocerus	25 ml/haak	Admirel [7]	(pyrproxyfen)	3 dagen	2/jaar interval 9 dagen - tegen larve
	roofwants Macrolophus	0,1 haak	Applaud [16]	(buprofezin)	3 dagen	tegen larven
	1 kg/ha haag Preferal WG	10 ml/ha	Vydate CHL druppelen [1A]	(oxamyl)	3 dagen	4
	0,17 haak	Tabtar 8 SC, Botar [3]	(bifenoxin)	3 dagen	1 zie (4)	
	0,375 kg/ha haak	Sannite WP [21]	(pyrisifen)	1 week	1	
Mineervlieg	sluipwesp Dacnusa	0,45 haak	Trigard [17]	(cyromazine)	3 dagen	3
	sluipwesp Diglyphus	0,2 haak	Tracer [5]	(spinosad)	3 dagen	3 zie (2)
	0,27 haak	Vertimec [6]	(abamectine)	zie (3)	1 tegen larven	
	10 ml/ha	Vydate CHL druppelen [1A]	(oxamyl)	3 dagen	4 interval 7 dagen	
Luis	sluipwesp Aphidius	0,1 kg/ha haak	Pleum [9]	(ymetrozin)	3 dagen	2 interval 14 dagen
	galnug Aphidoletes	0,5 kg/ha haak	Primer - 0,27 kg/ha haak Agrichim Pr (zinmizcarb)	3 dagen	2	
	sluipwesp Aphelinus	10 ml/ha	Vydate CHL druppelen [1A]	(oxamyl)	3 dagen	4 nevenwerking tegen spint
	levensbeestje Adalia	0,85 haak	Lannate 20 SL [14]	(methomyl)	2 weken	3
	1 haak	Luxan ddiv 600 EC [18]	(dichlorvos)	zie (1)		
	12 ac/ha haak	Luxan Dichlorvos Speciaal [18]	(dichlorvos)	zie (1)		
Rups	bacteriepreparaat Bacillus th.	0,5 haak	Mimic [18]	(tebufenozide)	3 dagen	2
	(Aphic, Opel WP, Xentari WG...)	0,1 haak	Tracer [5]	(spinosad)	3 dagen	3 zie (2)
Spint	roofmijt Phytoseius	0,5 kg/ha haak	Masat 20 WP - 0,4 kg/ha haak Masat (zuifendiprylat)	3 dagen	1	
	roofmijt Amblyseius	0,23 haak	Vertimec [6]	(abamectine)	zie (3)	1
	galnug Theroploca/Peltiola	0,375 kg/ha haak	Sannite WP [21]	(pyrisifen)	1 week	1
	0,17 haak	Tabtar 8 SC, Botar [3]	(bifenoxin)	3 dagen	1 zie (4)	

(1) Het gebruik van Luxan ddiv 600 EC en Luxan Dichlorvos Speciaal is enkel toegelaten als correctiemiddel bij het opstarten van de teelt of op het einde van de teelt (na de laatste oogst en voor gewas) waar geleigende bestrijding met behulp van natuurlijke vijanden toegepast wordt.

(2) Veelvuldig biologische bestrijders als het middel opgedroogt is - interval 7-10 dagen.

(3) Wachtijd in de zomer: 3 dagen; wachtijd in de winter: voor de bloei.

(4) De erkenning van Tabtar 10 EC werd ingetrokken. Er geldt een opbruiktermijn tot 20/03/2007.

# State of play at farm level

But also...

1. Need for more and better extension of advice because of **influence on quality, absence of “ total kill “**
2. Natural is more crop/ pest specific : more prevention
3. Technical tools and advice needed
4. Cost of natural control is not cheaper than conventional PPP control system (who pays the difference ? – no premium price in the market)
5. External push for natural control is becoming counterproductive e.g. : SUD in relation to CMO
6. **“ legal framework” to protect growers is needed**





# **Biological control instruments play a key role to address our future challenges**

## Important to remember

1. The market is usually looking for zero tolerance in the interest of product quality
2. Failure to meet this can result in a much lower price or even no market access at all
3. Unfeasible to wait for even slight visual damages before the treatment



# Some points of consideration for IBMA's work (I)

1. Solutions must be available at all times for all problems
2. A range of control options are needed with different modes of action in all EU Member States
3. Address diversity of production systems across EU Member States
4. Consider bio control products for both open field and glasshouse production

## Some points of consideration for IBMA's work (II)

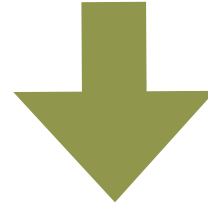
1. A lot of “solutions “ available on the market with no PPP authorisation but with reference
  - fertilizers
  - plant enhancer
  - no registration at all
2. We consider it important for the supplier as well as for the grower and for the consumer that (simplified) registration takes place
3. Copa-Cogeca **together with IBMA** awaits EC's proposal on low risks criteria of PPPs to address the issue of registration

# How to facilitate the uptake of biological control instruments ?

1. Knowledge needed about biological control instruments
2. Suitable measures within the Rural Development Programmes of the CAP (with national / regional co-financing )
3. Effective tools at low cost which are easy to implement (e.g. mass trapping with pheromones)
4. Technical assistance by biological manufacturers is expected by European farmers
5. Need for more demo actions on farm in order accelerate the uptake



## Some points of consideration for IBMA's work (III)



1. Ensure a regular exchange of information on what is in the pipeline for new biological control products
2. Copa-Cogeca can provide expertise with the involvement of the ad-hoc working parties bringing experts from EU MS
3. Some coordination will be needed at EU level in registrations of basic substances and low risk

**Let's work together !**

## Some points of consideration for IBMA's work (IV)

Let's work together !



A EU database of current/upcoming biological control solutions available on the market across EU Member States ?

# Which role for Research and Innovation at EU level ?

1. **More growers' driven research is needed**
2. European Innovation Partnership on Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability can play a role
3. Facilitate knowledge transfer from science to farming practice
4. An operational group also on Plant Protection Products ?

**Copa-Cogeca welcomes the KBBE  
call on biological control agents  
in agriculture and forestry**



# Conclusions (I)

1. Copa-Cogeca wants to play an active and positive role in the implementation of natural / biological pest control and IPM
2. Copa-Cogeca wants to work with IBMA for a better place of biological control agents in Europe
3. European farmers are not against new techniques but need :
  - guarantee that their crops remain protected and are of high quality
  - independent/ neutral extension services to help them to implement this technology

## Conclusions (II)

1. Legal framework and certainties needed for all partners in the agri-food chain, with a great role played by the European Commission
2. And finally ...

**Let's work together for a  
more sustainable and  
competitive agricultural  
sector in Europe**

# Enjoy the benefits of EU agriculture Thank you for your attention



[www.copa-cogeca.eu](http://www.copa-cogeca.eu)