



Sustainable plant protection: experiences in the Netherlands

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ABIM, 25 October 2016

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Content

1. Dutch presidency 2016 and sustainable plant protection
2. The Green deal initiative of the Ctgb
3. Transatlantic sharing of knowledge
4. National dialogue on sustainable plant protection
5. Conclusions

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Sustainable plant protection

- The urgency for industry, growers and government to move towards sustainability is clear and shared by all stakeholders
- The Netherlands, among other EU countries, puts much effort in programs to speed up the process
- Several approaches are taken; an overview will be presented

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Dutch presidency 2016
January-June 2016
Sustainable plant protection

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Sustainable plant protection

Temporary expert group on sustainable plant protection

- Aim: “to identify short and long-term actions to increase the availability of low-risk plant protection products and speed up the application of IPM in Member States”
- By building upon existing initiatives of member states and the European Commission
- Members: 19 interested member states, Commission, EFSA

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Sustainable plant protection

Results Temporary Expert Group

- “Implementation Plan on increasing low-risk plant protection product availability and accelerating integrated pest management implementation in Member States” (10th of June, 2016)
- Taken note at the meeting of the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 27-28 June 2016.
- Prolongation of Expert group until end of 2017

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Sustainable plant protection

Recommendations and actions on:

- Increasing availability of low-risk products
- Accelerating the implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Member States
- Supporting the research and development of alternative methods
- Recommendations for the future review of Reg. (EC) No 1107/2009
- Coordination of future work to implement the plan



The Green Deal initiative of the Ctgb

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Green Deal

Aim:

- To stimulate sustainable growth by collaboration between all stakeholders
- To resolve obstacles in the authorisation process
- To enable innovation of plant protection products

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Green Deal

Activities

- Pilot assessments of biopesticides
- Adapt organisation of Ctgb (GreenTEAM for intake and assessment)
- Contribute to harmonisation in EU

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Results green Deal

- Decision taken on 3 dossiers
- A successful workshop on human toxicology “micro-organisms in PPP’s”
- A harmonizing workshop on efficacy for biopesticides organised together with EPPO and NPPO

Lessons learned

- A Pre Submission Meeting is important to clarify possibilities and difficulties
- Managing of expectations
- A specialised “greenTEAM” of assessors for intake and assessment
- Tailor made solutions for dossiers

Results green Deal

Workshop on human toxicology

- Agreement on certain issues like dermal sensitisation and PPE
- The need when opportunistic infection require further investigation is specified and a standard qualitative risk assessment is defined for spraying scenarios
- For Clearance some issues are referred to the EU working group
- Secondary metabolites was discussed extensively; progress was made but further discussion in EU working group is necessary

Results of workshop are input for EU expert group for human toxicology



Results green Deal

Workshop efficacy of low risk PPP

- Assessment of efficacy is necessary
- Requirements for efficacy can be lower compared to conventional PPP
- Lower and more variable effectiveness is acceptable
- Any benefit of the product compared to the untreated control should be shown
- Extrapolation possibilities should be further explored
- Suggestion was made to consider EU as one zone for low risk
- No agreement on differentiated label claims

Workshop results are direct input for development EPPO guidance for efficacy assessment of low risk products

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Lessons learned

- Sometimes the data requirements are not realistic
- There is a need to harmonize guidances within EU and worldwide



Challenges for the CA's

- To stimulate innovation while performing adequate risk assessments
- Focus on the real risks
- Tendency towards 100% certainty blocks innovation
- 120 days for low risk products
- What can we learn from risk assessments of food and feed stuffs e.g. sugars, oils, probiotics?

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Transatlantic sharing of knowledge

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Transatlantic sharing of knowledge

- US EPA (BPPD: Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division)
- Share knowledge about biologicals
- Workshop on ecotoxicology, fate and behaviour and human toxicology
- Low threshold for contact on expert level
- Application in NL: Ctgb can, in cooperation with applicant and EPA, assist with a gap-analysis

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National dialogue on sustainable plant protection

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National dialogue

- National Dialogue February 3th 2016
- Agreements and action plan, all stakeholders
- Pilots IPM (7 pilots, various crop sectors)



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National dialogue

- Kick off pilots October 5th 2016
- Pilots: 2 year IPM in different agri-chains
- After pilots: 2 years results -> generic system towards integrating IPM and authorisation of PPPs



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National dialogue

- Partners: industry (chemical, biological PPPs), distributors, advisors, enforcement, government, Ctgb
- Main issues: more use of low risk (biological) products, more biology (insects etc) but economic safety (means for correction)
- Results: monitoring IPM system, guidance IPM in PPP assessment

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The pilots

Maximum use of
biology in greenhouses



Clean starting material
from tree nurseries to
fruit growers



Predatory insects
and spot
treatment if
necessary



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The pilots

Glasshouse IPM for thrips-free export



IPM on start material for ornamentals



Tagetes against nematodes in Lily



Creating IPM methods for sprouts

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The pilots

- Initiative of the Dutch Farmers Association
- Mindset/involvement of farmers
What's in it for me?
- Economic risk : benefit

National dialogue – way forward

How to deal with IPM in the assessment of plant protection products?

- Stimulate use of low risk biological products
- Precision application techniques
- Correction by chemical PPPs, spot treatment, controlled distribution
- How to weigh the total approach in a crop/cultivation against benefits (balance approach)?

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Conclusions

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Conclusions

- On European level important steps are taken
- Member States and Commission work on common goals: IPM, low risk
- European workshops fill the gaps in guidances for biologicals

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Conclusions

- We have to find a solution for assessing the total effect of an IPM approach in a certain crop/cultivation (balance approach), within our regulatory framework

Conclusions

- In the Netherlands, The Green Deal demonstrates that a targeted approach is necessary
- Cooperation with US EPA, BPPD, facilitates the development of a business case

Conclusions

- A practical approach of farmers organisations, facilitated by government and industry, is important to gain momentum



Thank you for your attention

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