



Plant Protection Products

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REFIT - Evaluation of EU pesticide legislation

Objectives

- To assess if the legislation is fit for purpose - if the needs of citizens, businesses and public institutions are met in an efficient manner.
- To assess if the general objectives of the legislation are met.

Ex-post evaluation - BACKWARD LOOKING!

Reporting obligations to Council and Parliament

- Articles 62(5) and 82 of Reg. (EC) No 1107/2009
- Article 47 of Reg. (EC) No 396/2005

Commission Staff Working Document and Report

- First half of 2019

REFIT – State of play

- **Roadmap** published on 17 November 2016: purpose, content and scope of the evaluation plus main evaluation criteria
- **Feedback** received was reflected in the **Terms of Reference** for an evaluation study
- **External contractor** is carrying out the evaluation study from July 2017 until June 2018
- **First workshop** with a limited group of Member States and stakeholders held in September 2017
- **Consultations** with a broad range of stakeholders + public

REFIT – Surveys launched 13 November

- **Open Public Consultation**
open until **12 February 2018** >4000 responses
- **Stakeholder survey**
closed 12 January 2018 244 responses
- **Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) survey**
closed 15 January 2018 296 responses
- **Member State Competent Authorities survey**
closed 19 January 2018

REFIT – Next steps

Future consultations (after surveys)

- Focus groups
- In-depth interviews
- Second Workshop - spring 2018

Commission website on the evaluation

<http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/refit>

2. MINOR USES

- *Second Stakeholder Advisory Forum: 6 February 2018*
- *New EUMUDA data base: up and running*
- *Commodity Expert Groups: more efficient coordination by the MUCF to find more crop protection solutions - more than 20 MS are attending*
- *Newsletter: 4x /year*
- *All MS are concerned by minor uses!*

2. MINOR USES

- *Long-term funding:*

- Current situation: EUMUCF jointly funded by EU + France, Germany and the Netherlands -> first 3 years (until April 2018!)
- Not all minor uses problems resolved in three years
- Future: only with the indicated voluntary assessed contributions the continuity of the CF can be guaranteed
- Otherwise: effect on staffing, EUMUDA and/or reimbursement of expenses for Expert Groups
- So far: only contributions from SE, BE, SK, DE, LT, DK + Commitments from: CH, FR and NL
- Commitments for 2019: only SE, CH...



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3. Neonicotinoid restrictions: state of play

- Regulation (EU) No 485/2013 significantly restricts the use of pesticides containing 3 neonicotinoids (clothianidin, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam)
- This Regulation included:
 - request for confirmatory data
 - review of the measure within 2 years

3. Neonicotinoid restrictions: state of play

- Confirmatory data:
 - Further risks to bees identified for clothianidin and imidacloprid
 - Insufficient data submitted for thiamethoxam to perform review
 - Proposal to further restrict the conditions of approval: only use in permanent greenhouses (also for treated seeds) + resulting crop must stay there for entire life cycle

3. Neonicotinoid restrictions: state of play

Review according to Article 21 (Reg (EU) No 1107/2009)

- EFSA open call for data: until 30 September 2015
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/data/call/150522>
- Due to the large amount of data received, EFSA postponed publication of its report until end of February 2018 (recently further extended)
- If justified, review of the approval conditions

3. Neonicotinoid restrictions: state of play

Further info and latest news on Nni can be found at:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/pesticides/approval_active_substances/approval_renewal/neonicotinoids_en

4. Bee Guidance Document

1. EFSA published in 2013 the Guidance on the risk assessment of plant protection products on bees (*Apis mellifera*, *Bombus* spp. and solitary bees)
2. The document received a lot of comments: many NGOs are in favour, industry is against and Member States are divided
3. A stepwise implementation of this guidance document is proposed via a Commission Notice: currently under discussion with Member States in the Standing Committee
4. The Commission intends to submit an amended draft Commission Notice later in 2018.