

Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products (SUR)

- **DG Health and Food Safety**
- **Presentation to DG AGRI CDG**
- **19 September 2022**

European Union



Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy:

2 key pesticide reduction targets by 2030



Reduce by 50% the overall use and risk of **chemical pesticides** by 2030



Reduce use by 50% of more hazardous pesticides by 2030



SUR – key new features



- ✓ **Regulation** – directly **binding and uniformly applicable** to all Member States



- ✓ Legally **binding targets**: 50% reduction in the use and risk of chemical pesticides and use of more hazardous by 2030



- ✓ **Streamlined National Action Plans (NAPs)** and annual reporting that support the legally binding targets



- ✓ **Environmentally friendly pest control** ensuring all farmers practice **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** in which chemical pesticides are used only as a last resort



SUR – key new features



New register to support inspection of pesticide application equipment



Revise harmonized risk indicators (HRIs) in light of future Statistics on Agricultural Inputs and Outputs (SAIO) data



Incentives for farmers to reduce pesticides under new **CAP**:
exceptional funding to support compliance for 5 years



Training – new periods of validity of training certs and proof of training needed for certain activities



SUR – key new features



A ban on all pesticide use in sensitive areas and within 3m of those areas



Aerial spraying – more stringent criteria for derogations



SUR – Directive to Regulation



Direct obligations on individuals



More detailed and prescriptive obligations



SUR – Legally Binding Targets



EU binding targets: 50% reduction in use and risk of chemical/ use of more hazardous pesticides by 2030 (Art 4)



Formula taking account of historical progress and intensity of pesticide use with 35% minimum (Art 5)



Transparency: Member States (MS) must respond publicly to Commission recommendations to increase their targets (Art 6)



Annual reporting on target trends with Commission analysis of progress every 2 years (Arts 7, 10 and 11)



SUR – National Action Plans (NAPs)



SUD NAPs could be quite varied – targets were voluntary and could cover different areas of concern



Under SUD, Member States (MS) could establish their own timetables, NAP review every 5 years



SUR NAPs have more streamlined contents – detailed list of what is to be included and links to F2F targets



Indicative targets based on analysis of key factors affecting trends in F2F targets



SUR – National Action Plans



Requirement to list financial and other measures to encourage IPM and non-chemical alternatives



MS to list planned progress re quantitative measures of compliance, info on plans re 25% organic utilised agricultural area (UAA) target, etc.



Annual Progress and Implementation Reports – trends in all targets, streamlined quantitative data on SUR compliance



Analysis by Commission of Annual Progress and Implementation Reports every 2 years



SUR – Integrated Pest Management – crop-specific rules



- ✓ Detailed legal obligations on professional users to comply with IPM (Arts 12, 13 and 15)



- ✓ Art 13 obligations where no crop-specific rules in place - drawn from general IPM principles Annex III SUD



- ✓ Art 15: MS to adopt binding crop-specific rules 2 years after entry into force for 90% of UAA to take account of local conditions – soil, crops, climate



- ✓ Very detailed list of what those rules should cover – translates IPM to local circumstances (at MS or regional level)



SUR – Integrated Pest Management – crop-specific rules



Professional user is deemed to comply with IPM if he or she complies with crop-specific rules



Member States have to review crop-specific rules on an annual basis and update when necessary



Commission can object to crop-specific rules before they become binding/ before updated and can carry out audits to ensure rules scientifically robust and comply with SUR



SUR – IPM – electronic record-keeping and advisors



- ✓ SUD had no system for recording reasoning process of professional users – hard to enforce IPM under SUD



- ✓ Under SUR, professional users must record reasons for any intervention (chemical, biological, physical or cultural)



- ✓ Threshold that needs to be reached before chemical intervention is set out in detail in crop-specific rules



- ✓ MS competent authorities to establish electronic IPM and plant protection product (PPP) use register and ensure professional users enter records



SUR – IPM – Advisory system



SUR: professional users must get strategic advice on IPM, precision farming, risk mitigation etc. at least once a year



Professional users used must keep records of advice received for 3 years in electronic IPM and plant protection product (PPP) use register



SUR – Application equipment



New central electronic register: notification requirements for transfer of ownership or withdrawal from use (Art 29)



Competent authority managing the central electronic register and overseeing inspections (Art 30)



More detailed list of information to be recorded at the time of inspection (Art 33)



COM to carry out controls and audits to verify application of rules in each Member State (Art 30)



SUR – Commitment to revise HRIs in light of SAIO data



Commitment in SUR to evaluate HRIs established under SUD 1 year after SUR entry into force (Art 35)



Evaluation of HRIs 1, 2 and 2a to be based on scientific research and extensive consultation



SUR to use SAIO data to publish new or amended HRIs 18 months after first data available under SAIO Regulation



SUR – Funding support from CAP for 5 years



New CAP (due to be implemented from 1 January 2023) to extend funding for voluntary practices to SUR compliance



Funding (e.g. eco-schemes and rural development initiatives) normally only for going beyond legal requirements.



Exemption to allow MS to fund compliance with **all** SUR obligations on farmers for 5 years



SUR – Training



Central electronic register for certifying training, detailed information it should contain (Art 25)



Period of validity of training certs (5 years for advisor, 10 years for distributor or professional user) (Art 25)



Proof of training before prof user can buy or use PPP authorised for professional use or use application equipment and before an advisor can advise (Arts 17, 23 and 24)



Distributors have to have a sufficient number of trained staff (Art 24)



SUR – Sensitive Areas



SUR prohibits the use of all pesticides in sensitive areas or within 3 metres of such areas (with derogations) (Art 18)



More areas covered: human settlements, urban areas covered by watercourse/ water feature, non-productive areas, special protection areas, areas that sustain pollinator species threatened with extinction



Stringent factors for derogations - proven serious and exceptional risk of the spread of quarantine pests/ invasive alien species and no technically feasible lower risk alternative control technique



SUR – Aerial spraying



Delegated act 3 years after entry into force: criteria that would allow the use of certain drones (Arts 21 and 45)



Drones that are shown to have potential for a more targeted aerial application – list of factors for future criteria



More stringent conditions for derogations



“a less negative impact on human health and the environment than any alternative application method”



SUR – Aerial spraying



Less negative impact: faster deployment so plant pests don't increase before deployment/ minimizing soil erosion when adverse weather = land unsuitable for land vehicles



Conditions for aerial spraying all set out in the SUR – under SUD they were for MS competent authorities to set



More detailed list of information on derogations required to be made public



No longer a default approval of aerial spraying application where no response given in time



Supporting the transition

A package of key policies will support farmers and other users in the transition to more sustainable food production systems, including:



An increase of the range of **biological and low risk alternatives** on the market;



Incentives for farmers to reduce pesticide use under the new **CAP**, including 5 year funding of compliance

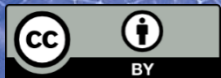


Research and Development under **Horizon 2030**; and



An Organic Action Plan, to deliver the F2F pesticide targets.

Thank you



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