

CDG Arable Crops – Sugar/hops sectors

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Update on EU Minor Uses Coordination Facility (MUCF) in the hops sector

- As from 1st November 2016 the EUMUCF is fully staffed with the coordinator, administrator, IT-expert and the technical expert.
- Currently, the funding of the Coordination Facility has been guaranteed by France, Germany and the Netherlands as well as the Commission for the first three years. Already several other Member States have indicated their willingness to contribute to the funding of the Coordination Facility. It is clear that minor uses problems will not all be resolved in three years. A mid-/long-term planning (5-10 years) and a strategy how other Member States can contribute, is in preparation and has been discussed by the EU Minor Uses Steering Group. Several options for financial contributions have been discussed. Preferably commitment for contributions should be provided for a longer period. However, it was emphasized that these will be voluntarily assessed contributions and that there is no legal obligation for Member States to contribute.
- Preferably the EUMUCF should be financed by contributions from Member States only, and it should not have to rely on contributions from industry and other stakeholders. This also to avoid any conflict of interest.
- Further discussion will take place in the January SCoPAFF meeting and at the annual meeting of stakeholders on 25 January 2017.
- The Coordination Facility has planned the first Stakeholder Advisory Forum on 25 January 2017. This will be an annual meeting of stakeholders (including representatives of all Member States) at which the work of the Coordination Facility and wider aspects of the Minor Uses Program will be reported, and advice offered on priorities for future work and ways of working. This will also be an opportunity for further discussion on the long-term planning and strategy with other stakeholders. The EUMUCF has organised its Stakeholder Advisory Forum back-to-back with the SCoPAFF meeting in January 2017 in Brussels to encourage and facilitate participation of all Member States.
- The first and second Global Minor Use Summits were held in Rome in 2007, respectively in 2012. The Third Global Minor Use Summit (GMUS-3) and the Second Global Minor Use Workshop will be held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The EUMUCF takes part in the Organising Committee. The EU should work on a coordinated contribution.
- The EU Minor Uses Database (EUMUDA) is in the process of being updated. As it is foreseen that a minor uses project eventually may result in an application for an extension of a minor uses authorisation the structure of EUMUDA will as far

as possible be aligned to the PPPAMS structure. It is foreseen that the new EUMUDA will be launched in March 2017.