

**APSE SEMINAR
“MANAGING PARKS IN
CHALLENGING TIMES”**

**EU pesticides legislation
and possible impact on
amenity pesticide use**

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EU Thematic Strategy for pesticides

Treaty of Rome (environmental objectives)

6th Environmental Action Programme

Thematic Strategy for Pesticides
(Aim to reduce risk to human health and the environment)

Pre-marketing
authorisation

Directive 91/414
(to be replaced
by regulation)

Use stage

Member state actions
**Sustainable Use
Directive**
**Standards for new
machinery**

Post-use Monitoring

Maximum Residue Levels
and Water Framework
Directive
Statistics Regulation

Pesticide authorisation regulation

- Modernise and rationalise regulatory regime
 - Raise bar in terms of perceived levels of protection, get the regime to work more efficiently.
- Negative impact on product availability
 - Use of hazard criteria as basis for approval of products;
 - Lack of clarity on definitions means impact is uncertain.;
 - could lose 2,4-D, amitrole, bifenthrin, carbendazim, deltamethrin, glufosinate, ioxynil, iprodione, penconazole, picloram, prochloraz, propiconazole, tebuconazole, warfarin.
- Less of an issue for amenity than agriculture/horticulture?

Sustainable Use directive

- National Action Plans;
- On-going training and certificates for users, distributors and advisers;
- Sprayer testing;
- Protection water and other sensitive sites;
- Promotion of integrated approaches.
- More of a challenge for the amenity sector.

National Action Plans - Policy

- National Action Plans shall set quantitative objectives, targets, measures, indicators to reduce risks and impact of pesticides...and encourage development of IPM and alternative approaches and techniques in order to reduce dependency on the use pesticides.

Training

- Member states shall ensure all professional users, distributors and advisors have access to appropriate training by bodies designated by competent authorities. This shall consist of both **initial** and **additional** training to acquire and update knowledge as appropriate.
- Training shall cover: legislation; hazards (risks to humans, symptoms of poisoning and first aid measures; risks and risks to the environment); IPM and organic farming; comparative assessment at user level; storage, handling, mixing and disposal, preparation; operation, use and maintenance of application equipment; emergency action in case of accidents; health monitoring and access facilities to report incidents; counterfeit products; and record keeping.

Sprayer testing

- Member states shall ensure that pesticide application equipment in professional use shall be inspected at regular intervals...at least every 5 years until 2020 and then every 3 years thereafter. All machines shall have been tested by 2016 and from this date only those which have passed an inspection can be used.
- Handheld equipment and knapsacks may be exempted from testing, provided member states ensure operators have been informed on the need to regularly change accessories, on risks linked to the equipment and that operators are trained in proper use. Provided that risk and scale of use assessments carried out.
- Handhelds, knapsacks, application equipment not used for spraying pesticides or other types of machinery (must be listed in national action plans) may be tested less (or more!) frequently. Provided that risk and scale of use assessments carried out.

Protection of water

- Member states shall ensure that appropriate measures to protect the aquatic environment and drinking water supplies from the impact of pesticides are adopted.
- Measures shall include: giving preference to products not classified as dangerous for the aquatic environment; giving preference to the most efficient application techniques; use of mitigation measures which minimise off-site pollution caused by spray drift, drain-flow and run-off.
- Measures also include minimising or eliminating applications along roads, railway lines, very permeable surfaces or other infrastructure close to water or on sealed surfaces with a high risk of run-off to water or sewage systems.

Protection of 'specific areas'

- Taking account of risk assessments and having due regard for necessary hygiene, public health and biodiversity member states shall prohibit or minimise use in areas used by the general public or vulnerable groups.
- Areas are defined as parks, public gardens, sports and recreation grounds, school grounds and playgrounds and in the close vicinity of healthcare facilities (also protected areas as defined under the water framework directive, Natura 2000 sites and areas recently treated which are used by or accessible to agricultural workers).

Integrated approaches

- Member states shall take all necessary measures to promote low pesticide-input pest management, giving priority to non-chemical methods so that professional users switch to lowest risk practices and products. Low input defined as IPM and organic farming.
- Member states shall establish or support the establishment of necessary conditions for the implementation of IPM, making sure professional users have information, tools, decision-making and advisory services at their disposal.
- General principles of IPM to be implemented by all professional users by start of 2014. Crop or sector specific IPM may be drawn up by professional users and member states shall encourage their adoption.

What next on implementation?

- Text virtually adopted, publication expected in summer. Various implementation deadlines.
- PSD consultation on implementation measures later this year - aiming for proportionate and practical measures.
- National implementation measures developed under framework of Government's Pesticides Strategy.

Conclusion - some key messages

- Pesticides effective and economical means of managing vegetation, however risks associated with use which we seek to minimise.
- Amenity use contributes to pollution of water, but risks can be minimised through adoption of best practice.
- Local authorities are major users, wide variation in standards though.
- Local authority structures make it difficult to effectively target messages.
- World is changing - EU Thematic Strategy will put pressure on product availability, so development of integrated approaches necessary.
- Government implementation of EU pesticides legislation requires industry, local authorities and other stakeholders to play their part.

Thank you

Any Questions

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