

Agriculture Industry Advisory Committee: February 2010

Pesticides and new EU legislation

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Overview

- Pesticides hazardous substances, potential for adverse impacts on human health and the environment (e.g. water).
- Great benefits for society if used responsibly.
- Controls
 - Regulatory risk assessment and product approval process;
 - Statutory controls on use (good practice)
 - Voluntary controls on use (best practice)
 - Monitoring
- National Strategy to reconcile.

Changes

- Updating of pesticide authorisation procedures (new Regulation)
 - Procedures largely follow existing process, but raising of the bar in terms of levels of protection;
 - New concepts introduced to decision-making process. Hazard criteria, comparative assessment and substitution will affect product availability in medium term but impact is unclear;
 - Users will be required to keep records (product name, time, dose, area treated). To be made available to competent authorities on request . Third parties can request information from competent authorities.

Changes

- Sustainable Use Directive
 - National Action Plans to co-ordinate activity. Include targets, measures and timetables. Indicators to monitor the use of 'active substances of particular concern'. Use reduction targets if necessary to reduce risk.
 - Training. Users, distributors and advisors to have access to initial and on-going training covering subjects detailed in Annex I. Certification systems.
 - Sales. Products for professional use sold only to those holding a training certificate.
 - Testing of application equipment. 3 yearly tests by 2020. Differing test intervals or exemptions for knapsacks and handhelds. Need for regular calibrations. Certification systems.

Changes

- **Sustainable Use Directive (cont)**

- Informing the public, option clause to make this requirement.
- Protection of water. Preference to products and application techniques, use mitigation measures and minimising use transport infrastructure and hard surfaces with risk of run-off the water. Importance of links to WFD.
- Areas used by public or vulnerable groups. Minimise or prohibit use.
- Handling and storage. Ensure that operations do not endanger human health or the environment Includes provisions relating to construction of stores.
- IPM. Information and tools for users. General principles of Annex III to be implemented by all professional users by 1 January 2014.

What next

- Consultation due to be launched 9 February. All options to be presented for consideration, proportionate controls, no reduction in the level of control.
- February – April consultation open.
- May - August: assessing the consultation and deciding the way forward.
- September - late 2011: making any legislation, putting voluntary arrangements in place.

Thank you



Any Questions

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