



Sustainable plant protection in Europe

The Dutch sustainable initiative and activities
during the EU Presidency

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The need for change

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The need for change

- Agricultural production to match a growing world population
- Societal demands in an urbanised continent and urbanizing world
- Product stewardship
- The industry is innovating towards a greener portfolio

Sustainable plant protection

- “Empowering your crops”
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Minimise interventions with (chemical) Plant Protection Products
- Development and registration of “green” Active Ingredients and Plant Protection products (PPP’s)

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Introduction to Dutch agriculture and to the Ctgb, part of the European Union

Dutch agriculture

- Focus points: dairy and horticulture
- A highly innovative sector
- Exporting products as well as technology
- Development of “Precision Agriculture”
- Based on GPS-technology, IT and automated machinery



Dutch agriculture

- Dutch horticulture has a long history in biocontrol and Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Greenhouses: controlled conditions and a perfect environment for IPM
- Still: it has its problems, mostly due to the very intensive use of land
- The region between Rotterdam and The Hague is called the “glass city”

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Ctgb: the Dutch CA

The Dutch Board for the Authorisation of Plant Protection Products and Biocides

- An independent body for assessment as well as authorisation
- The Board consists of 9 experts on all relevant fields
- All appointed by the minister
- Assisted by a secretariat of 125 fte, covering all aspects of assessments

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Ctgb: the Dutch Competent Authority

- The secretariat is responsible for the assessment reports
- It identifies problems, issues for consideration and issues for expert judgment
- This is, together with the full assessment report, presented to the Board

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Ctgb: the Dutch CA 2

- The Board discusses the report and decides
- Third parties (industry as well as NGO's) can challenge all Board decisions in court

Ctgb and the European Union

- In the EU there are 28 member states and 28 CA's
- In principle we recognise each others authorisation
- But this is embedded in a rather complex Regulation



A Dutch perspective: The Dutch presidency 2016: A European sustainable initiative

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The Dutch presidency 1st half of 2016

Wednesday October 21st the program will be presented in the EU council AGRIFISH

Ambition:

- To promote IPM and accelerate the farmers toolbox for plant protection with lower risk alternatives in the EU
- By building upon existing initiatives of “like minded” member states and the European Commission.

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The Dutch presidency 1st half of 2016

Possible actions:

- Acceleration of approval and authorisation procedures for “low-risk” substances and PPP’s
- Finalizing EU-criteria for low-risk substances
- Promotion of IPM-research
- Improving IPM-communication by means of an EU-website

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A Dutch perspective

The Green deal initiative of the Ctgb

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The Ctgb “Green Deal”

Aims:

- To stimulate sustainable growth by collaboration between all stakeholders
- To resolve obstacles in the authorisation process
- To enable innovation of plant protection products

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Issues for industry and RA

For the industry:

- Development of new Active Ingredients and products
- Building a dossier and registration of the products

For the regulatory agencies:

- To assist the SME's
- To innovate along with industry instead of stifling innovation

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Green Deal

- 8 authorisation pilots with products
- 2 pilots with active substances
- Some extra budget to contribute to harmonisation and to document and share the lessons learned

Lessons learned 1

- A Pre Submission Meeting is important to clarify possibilities and difficulties
- Managing of expectations
- A specialised “greenTEAM” of assessors for intake and assessment
- Tailor made solutions for dossiers

Lessons learned 2

- The current, “chemistry based”, requirements are not always helpful
- Sometimes the data requirements are not realistic
- There is a need to harmonize guidances within EU and worldwide

Lessons learned 3

Follow up, contribution to harmonization

- Active role in guidance development (e.g. botanicals, semio-chemicals)
- A workshop on human toxicology “micro-organisms in PPP’s”
- The ambition to prepare a harmonizing workshop on efficacy for biopesticides

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A Dutch perspective Challenges for the Competent Authorities's

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Challenges for the CA's

- To stimulate innovation while performing adequate risk assessments

Focus on the real risks, e.g.

- Can we regard a botanical blend as one Active Ingredient if properly “fingerprinted”?
- What can we learn from risk assessments of food and feed stuffs e.g. sugars, oils, probiotics?

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Some issues to be solved

- How to incorporate IPM in the authorisation process?
- How to describe efficacy on the label?
- What will be the need for “correction” or “knock out” chemicals in a biobased IPM-system?

We would like to explore these and other questions with those who want to join us.

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Conclusions

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Conclusions

- There is a need to speed up the approval and authorisation process for lower risk substances and PPP's
- Part of it will be covered by speeding up the authorisation process of "low risk" products
- But a tailor made approach is necessary
- We need special attention for SME's

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A collage of nature-related images. On the left, a small brown bird with its beak open. On the right, a close-up of a child's face looking at a plant. Below these, a landscape with a pond and a row of trees. At the bottom, a grassy bank next to a body of water.

Thank you for your attention

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