



# Biological Plant Protection Products; the NL perspective

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# The Netherlands

1. 41.865 km<sup>2</sup>, 540 inh/km<sup>2</sup>
2. High density of inhabitants, livestock, economic activities and infrastructure
3. Efficient and intensive crop and flower production
4. Highest use of kg PPPs/ha in the EU
5. Delta, 'Water country', lots of rivers and streams



# Vision on Plant protection (1)

- > Plant protection in 2030:
  - > ● plants and cultivation systems are resilient
  - > ● agriculture, horticulture and nature are connected
  - > ● nearly emission free to the environment and no residues on products.
- > Goal of the Innovation Agenda: “In 2050, Dutch agriculture and horticulture are fully sustainable, meaning economically viable, fitting within the limits of the natural environment, contributing to the welfare of humans and animals, and robust in the face of a changing climate”

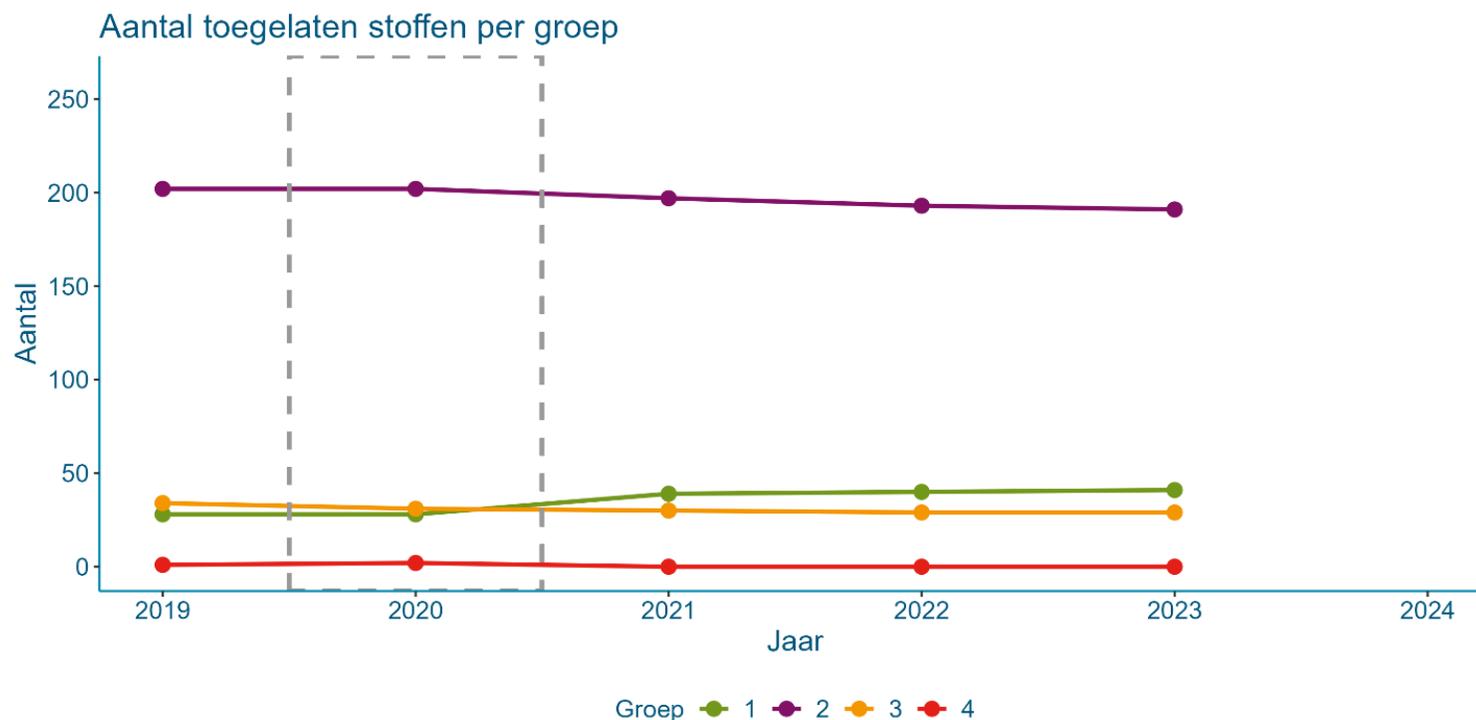


# Vision on Plant protection (2)

- > Ambitious Integrated Pest Management needed
- > In which Biocontrol plays a prominent role
- > Dutch diamond: industry, research, government and NGOs work together;  
'Uitvoeringsprogramma 2030'
- > Farmers need solutions; appropriate toolbox
- > Food security is a priority
- > Concerns about impact on public health, water quality and biodiversity need to be tackled !



## Slight increase in sales, but still a low percentage of total sales (4,6%)

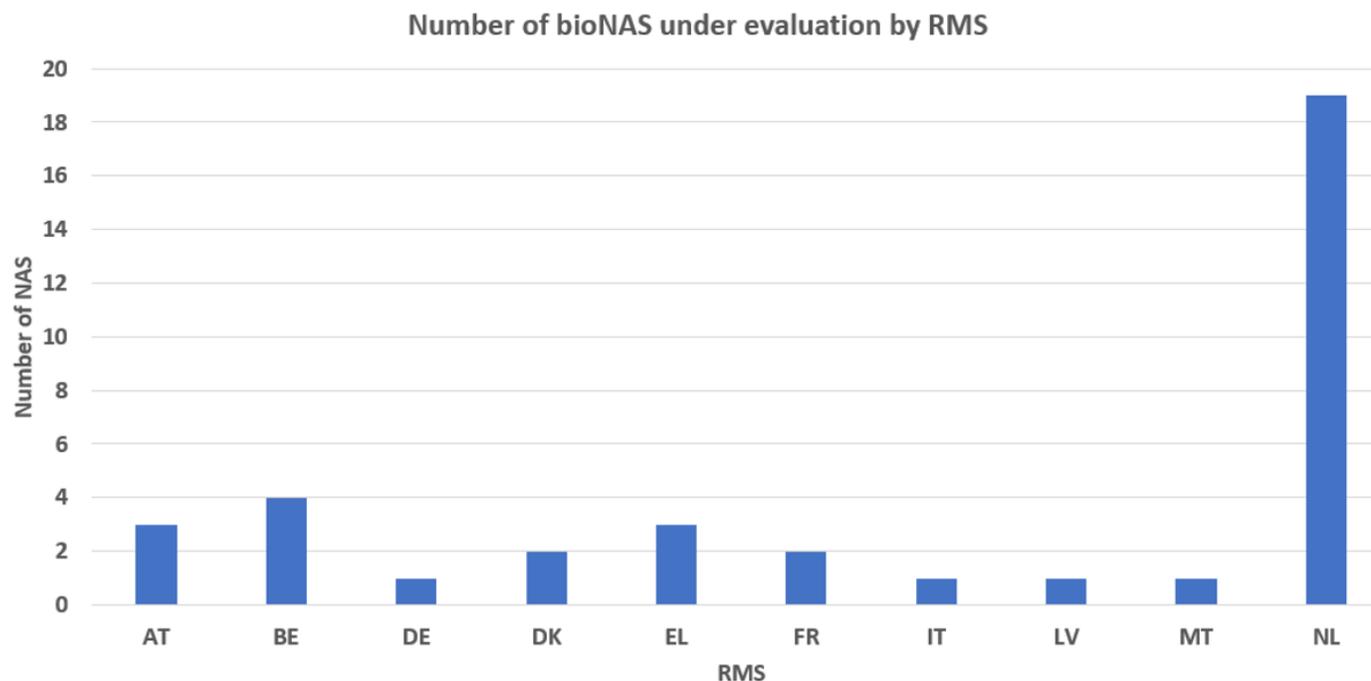


There are various reasons for this, but a major obstacle to the use of organic, low-risk crop protection products is the current method of risk assessment.

- 1: organic and low-risk
- 2: chemical and other conventional PPPs
- 3: candidates for substitution
- 4: no current market authorization



# NL agency Ctgb dominant rapporteur for biocontrol dossiers in the EU



NAS: new active substances  
RMS: Rapporteur MS





# Ambition

- > Increase the availability of low-risk products and encourage their use
- > Maintain effective measures and products for plant protection
- > Speed up assessments and make them more efficient
- > Amend EU regulations and procedures



# Ambition of NL in EU-context:

- **EU-legislation:** (1) clear definition of “biopesticides”, (2) adjustment of the approval period, (3) simplification of procedures (including “group level approval”), (4) reintroduction of provisional authorization.
- **More efficient assessment:** Ensure a more efficient and appropriate assessment of low-risk substances and agents (a.o. adaptation of guidelines for assessment bodies).
- **Capacity building:** Ensure that all Member States have sufficient knowledge and expertise.
- **Increase EFSA capacity**





# Opportunities / next steps

- > Upcoming Commission proposal
- > Cooperation between like-minded ambitious countries
- > Encouraging use through CAP schemes and knowledge development
- > Independent advice
- > Experiments with biocontrol in practice
- > New Plant Health Practice Program
- > 'Uitvoeringsprogramma Gewasbescherming 2030'



# Good and best practices Ctgb

- > Ctgb Sustainability Desk
- > Ctgb Green Team
- > consultation with Ctgb prior to submitting an application
- > expansion of simplified procedure for minor uses
- > can also be used for low-risk products with major uses
- > training colleagues in other Member States



Ministerie van Landbouw,  
Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit

Thank you very  
much for your  
attention.





# Sustainability Desk

## Priority procedure for non-chemical PPP authorizations

### For applications meeting certain criteria:

- At least one new use in NL
- Active substances are in at least one of the following categories:
  - § Low risk substances (including preliminary LR based on COM list 2018)
  - § Living microorganisms
  - § Pheromones
  - § Other non-chemical PPP excluding those with broad spectrum toxicity (e.g., could include dsRNA, peptides and non-toxic plant extracts or other non-toxic biological substances)



# Challenges

- > Approval of biocontrol products is lagging behind the phase-out of chemical products
- > Make assessment more efficient within current EU frameworks, speed up procedures
- > Joint development of guidelines for faster and more efficient assessment of biocontrol; e.g. DK & NL developed the 'EU explanatory notes for microorganisms'
- > Budget (to stimulate increased availability and use, Ctgb capacity)