

PANEL ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND THEIR RESIDUES

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New GD on protected crops

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(e.g. Greenhouses and cultivations grown under cover)

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Revised project plan with considerations from stakeholders

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following public consultation

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27 April 2009

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20 **1 General information**

Project name	GD on protected crops
Project plan version, date	2.0,
ToR	April 2 2008
Start	16-4-2008
End	30-4-2010

21 **2 Project definition**

22 **2.1 Project structure**

23 The project group is formed by the Panel members and the PPR unit, Damia Barcelo (CSIC,
24 ES), Jos Boesten (Alterra, NL), Ettore Capri (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Piacenza,
25 IT), Mark Montforts (RIVM, NL) and Walter Steurbaut (Gent University, BE), Mark Egsmose
26 (EFSA, PPR), and Stephanie Bopp (EFSA, PPR), and the external experts James Garratt
27 (Enviresearch, UK), Lidia Sasz-Past (Research Institute of Pomology and Floriculture, PL),
28 Cecilia Stanghellini (WUR, NL), Ton van der Linden (RIVM, NL), Alberto Pardossi
29 (Università di Pisa, IT). The project group is responsible for delivering the project results in a
30 timely manner.

31 The Project Group reports to the PPR Panel.

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32 **2.2 Relations to other projects and external partners**

33 The project will draw upon expertise and information available at EUROSTAT. Cooperation
34 with EUROSTAT and EEA will be taken care of by the PPR-unit. At the start of the project no
35 overlapping issues with JRC, EMEA, SCHER, ECHA, or other bodies have been identified.

36 Where emission to soil from temporary shelters is concerned, this will be communicated to the
37 Working Group GD on Exposure in Soil through the PPR unit.

38 The PPR Panel has noted the Opinion of the Panel on Plant Health: Pest risk assessment made
39 by France on *Ralstonia* sp. pathogenic agent of banana blood disease considered by France as
40 harmful in French overseas departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and
41 Réunion, adopted 21 February 2008. Protected cropping systems in overseas territories will
42 have lower priority compared to systems utilised on the mainland.

43 EFSA intends to consult Member States and other stakeholders to collect comments during the
44 development of the Guidance Document. The project will require feedback from the
45 Commission, Member States and stakeholders. Communication, e.g. through web-consultation,
46 will be taken care of by PPR unit.

47 **2.3 Outsourcing**

48 It is expected that selected work-packages will be externalised for the development of this
49 guidance as needed.

50 **2.4 Project description**

51 **2.4.1 Update of the Project Plan**

52 The Project Plan was updated following a public web-consultation from 20 October to 15 De-
53 cember 2008. The EFSA PPR report containing the comments of the stakeholders can be found
54 on the EFSA PPR web-pages for scientific reports. The stakeholder comments are taken into
55 consideration by the WG for the further development of the guidance.

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57 **2.4.2 Background**

58 Protected crops (e.g. greenhouses and cultivations grown under cover) are specified in the
59 Directive 91/414/EEC as amended, for fields of use of both chemical and microbial products.
60 During the review process of the substances of the second list and third list, concerns were
61 raised by Member States regarding the lack of guidance for the environmental exposure
62 assessment for protected crops.

63 There is no definition that demarcates the emission of a protected crop application from the
64 emission of a field application. Neither is there agreement on the definitions of individual
65 protected/covered crop systems like a specific type of greenhouse. Nevertheless, several active
66 ingredients have been listed in Annex I with reference to use in greenhouses, in one case
67 specifying a closed hydroponic system.

68 A number of Member States have expressed interest in development of guidance in this area in
69 response to a consultation on Guidance Documents by the Director of Sciences from EFSA in a
70 letter 3 July 2006 sent *via* the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health.

71 The foreseen guidance will allow a future working group to develop emission and exposure
72 scenarios for protected crop systems.

73 **2.4.3 Terms of Reference**

74 The Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR Panel) of EFSA is
75 asked to develop an inventory of protected crop systems (e.g. Greenhouses and cultivations
76 grown under cover) and emissions from these systems to relevant environmental compartments,
77 and to provide guidance on the importance of emission routes including the circumstances
78 under which they are relevant. The Terms of References were sent by the chair of the PPR
79 Panel, Tony Hardy, to EFSA in a letter dated the 1st of April 2008 and the proposal was
80 accepted by EFSA in the letter from Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle to the PPR Panel in a letter
81 dated the same day.

82 **2.4.4 Aim of the project**

83 To provide an overview/inventory of covered cropping systems, with a view to

- 84
- Demarcate covered cropping systems from open field cultivations

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- 85 • Identify system characteristics that are useful for a classification of systems
- 86 • Identify potential emission routes and relevance of these for the classes of covered
- 87 production systems (and under which conditions these are applicable)
- 88 • Identify environmentally relevant data on land use intensity for the given types of cover
- 89 • Provide the relevant information so as to enable prioritising of emissions, which can
- 90 serve for the development of exposure scenarios and RA schemes for protected
- 91 cropping systems in a following WG.
- 92 • Enable competent authorities to decide what classifications have practical use with
- 93 respect to inclusion of pesticides in Annex I (directive 91/414/EEC) and national
- 94 authorisations.

95 Agreement has been reached between the PPR Working Group and the experts at the PRAPeR

96 Unit of EFSA about the scope of the agricultural production systems and protection goals in EU

97 Directive 91/414/EEC as follows:

- 98 • Agricultural production systems in the EU-27 and overseas territories when possible
- 99 • All emission routes are to be considered: via air, water, soil, waste materials
- 100 • Environmental compartments to be considered as potential receptors are: air, surface
- 101 water and sediment, groundwater, soil, Sewage Treatment Plants. The relevance to non-
- 102 target organisms and birds and mammals as potential receptors is also to be considered,
- 103 since they might be entering a protected crop structure. Aquatic organisms are not to be
- 104 considered as direct receptors in a protected crop structure.
- 105 • Exposure of residents and bystanders and Integrated Pest Management are not to be
- 106 considered.

107 Priority covered cropping systems to be considered are any permanent and temporary sheltering

108 constructions partly made of glass (greenhouses) or plastic. Chicory and mushrooms in closed

109 buildings, hand held sprayers for bananas covered by plastic (overseas territory of EU Member

110 States), as well as soil fumigation with plastic covers have a lower priority. In addition fruit

111 crops with protective netting and indoor use in handling and storage facilities and containers:

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112 gassing; fumigation; conservation of e.g. oranges, apples, potatoes have lower priority in this
113 project.

114 **2.4.5 Deliverables of the Working Group**

115 The Working Group will develop a European Guidance Document containing:

116 1. A scoping document containing an overview/inventory of covered cropping systems
117 (April 2010)

118 2. Guidance on the importance of emission routes including the circumstances under
119 which they are relevant (April 2010)

120 **2.4.6 Data-Collection**

121 Available data on characteristics of protected crop production systems will be collected via
122 collaboration with Eurostat, through out-sourcing and with help of EFSA AMU unit
123 (Assessment Methodology Unit). The data will be collected for all Member states of the EU-27
124 as far as possible.

125 **3 Planning**

126 A workshop on the development of the new GD with the aim to collect views of different
127 stakeholders is planned for November 2009.

128 According to the Terms of Reference guidance should be adopted by the PPR Panel by the end
129 of April 2010.