



*5th SUD Symposium:
Unlocking the IPM triangle - Using Green tools 1st*

IBMA Short Statement
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Just over 7 years ago, I was offered and accepted the position of Executive Director of the then aspirational young teenage organisation, IBMA. It's founding members had a vision back in 1995 of a different form of agriculture a true green revolution! Like the first green revolution it involved producing healthy crops to feed a growing world population. However, in contrast to the first green revolution this one is truly green! It engages in an agriculture that is green not only in producing plentiful harvestable yields but in totality, including interactions with the environment and the human population.

Such a change would never happen without innovative people looking at what nature offers and working with it! Such a change to truly sustainable agriculture would not gain traction without passionate people prepared to challenge the status quo.

Such a change would not occur without policymakers making brave choices and placing the benefits to society, farmers, SME's and the environment first. We now are finalising revised and appropriate criteria for low-risk PPPs in SCoPAFF.

We have commitment from our European Parliament Envi Committee who last week voted 59:1 for a motion that calls for procedures to be delivered within 2 years outside of REFIT for accelerating regulatory processes of low-risk PPPs. Sincere thanks go to the strength of commitment of Herbert Dorfmann, Pavel Poc and all their other co-sponsors across political divides. Next week Commissioner Andriukaitis should be able to inform us of how DG Sante intend to accomplish what hopefully the whole Parliament endorse to enable us to truly implement IPM and bring low-risk PPPs to European farmers.

Such a change would never happen without farming organisations accepting that the old style of agriculture can no longer guarantee the produce, together with the health of the population and the farms themselves, the part of the environment for which the farmer is a custodian for future generations.

I am at the point dare I say it where I can see we will soon commence filling the farmer's toolbox at a sensible rate with modern innovative tools sensitive to the environment and human health regulated in a way proportionate to risk posed to the benefit of all.

Our Chairman, Michael Hamell always asks we all see a need and want change why is it not happening? Finally, this year I hesitate but believe it now safe in saying Mr Chairman, the seeds have been sown and the crop is germinating which will bring tools allowing IPM to blossom! The hard work can now begin.