



Visie van Pesticide Action Network (PAN) op duurzaam gebruik

Werkgroep Plantenbescherming Genootschap Agrarische
Productie en Ecosfeer

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www.pan-europe.info

My presentation

- Who we are and what we do
- time table for SUD implementation
- SUD on agriculture in the EU
- IPM in practice
- The way forward

Who we are and what we do

- 31 not-for-profit members in 19 European countries
- Bring together health, environmental & consumer organisations; trade unions; womens' & farmer associations
- Our Belgium members include: Bond Beterleef Milieu & Inter-Environnement Wallonie
Collaborate more and more with: VELT, Nature and Progress and ADALIA
- Working to replace use of hazardous pesticides with ecologically sound alternatives
- Goal of productive + sustainable farming, minimising agrochemical inputs & adverse health & environmental impacts

Time table for implementation of Directive 2009/128/EC:

Implementation of Sustainable Use Directive (SUD):

- **26 November 2011**, Member States to convert Directive 2009/128/EC into national law (art. 23)
- **26 November 2012**, Member States shall communicate National Action Plans (NAP) to Commission and other Member States (art. 4.2)

Implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM):

- **30 June 2013**, Member States report to the European Commission on implementation of IPM (art. 14.3)
- **1 January 2014**, all professional users to implement IPM (art. 14.4)

The way forward in EU agriculture according to SUD

*”Integrated pest management emphasises the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and **encourages natural pest control mechanisms**”; (Article 3)*

*”Member States shall take **all necessary measures to promote low pesticide-input pest management**, giving when ever possible, priority to non-chemical methods, so that professional users of pesticides switch to practices and products with the lowest risk to human health and the environment among those available for the same pest problem.... ” (article 14)*

What SUD says on IPM/ICM

IPM:

The general principles of IPM as set out in Annex III, has to be implemented by all professional users by 1 January 2014 (article 14 (4)), including:

- **Crop rotation**
- Use of adequate cultivation techniques
- Use, where appropriate, of resistant/tolerant cultivar and standard/certified seed and planting material
- Use of balanced fertilisation, liming and irrigation/drainage practices
- Preventing the spreading of harmful organisms by hygiene measures
- Protection and enhancing of important beneficial organisms

ICM:

”Member states shall establish appropriate incentives to encourage professional users to **implement crop and sector-specific guidelines** for integrated pest management on a voluntary basis.....”(article 14.5)

Training, advises, monitoring to support this change

- *”Member states shall establish or support the establishment of necessary conditions for the implementation of integrated pest management. In particular, **they shall ensure that professional users have at their disposal information and tools for pest monitoring and decision-making, as well as advisory services on integrated pest management.**” (article 14.2)*
- *Harmful organisms must be monitored by adequate methods and tools where available. Such adequate tools should include observations in the field as well as scientifically sound **warnings, forecasting and early diagnosis systems where feasible as well as the use of advice from professional qualified advisers.**”(annex III, point 2)*

What does this mean?

SUD should contribute to upgrading the agricultural system, easy to fit into the Common Agricultural Policy towards 2020 debate, with agriculture being a dynamic sector:

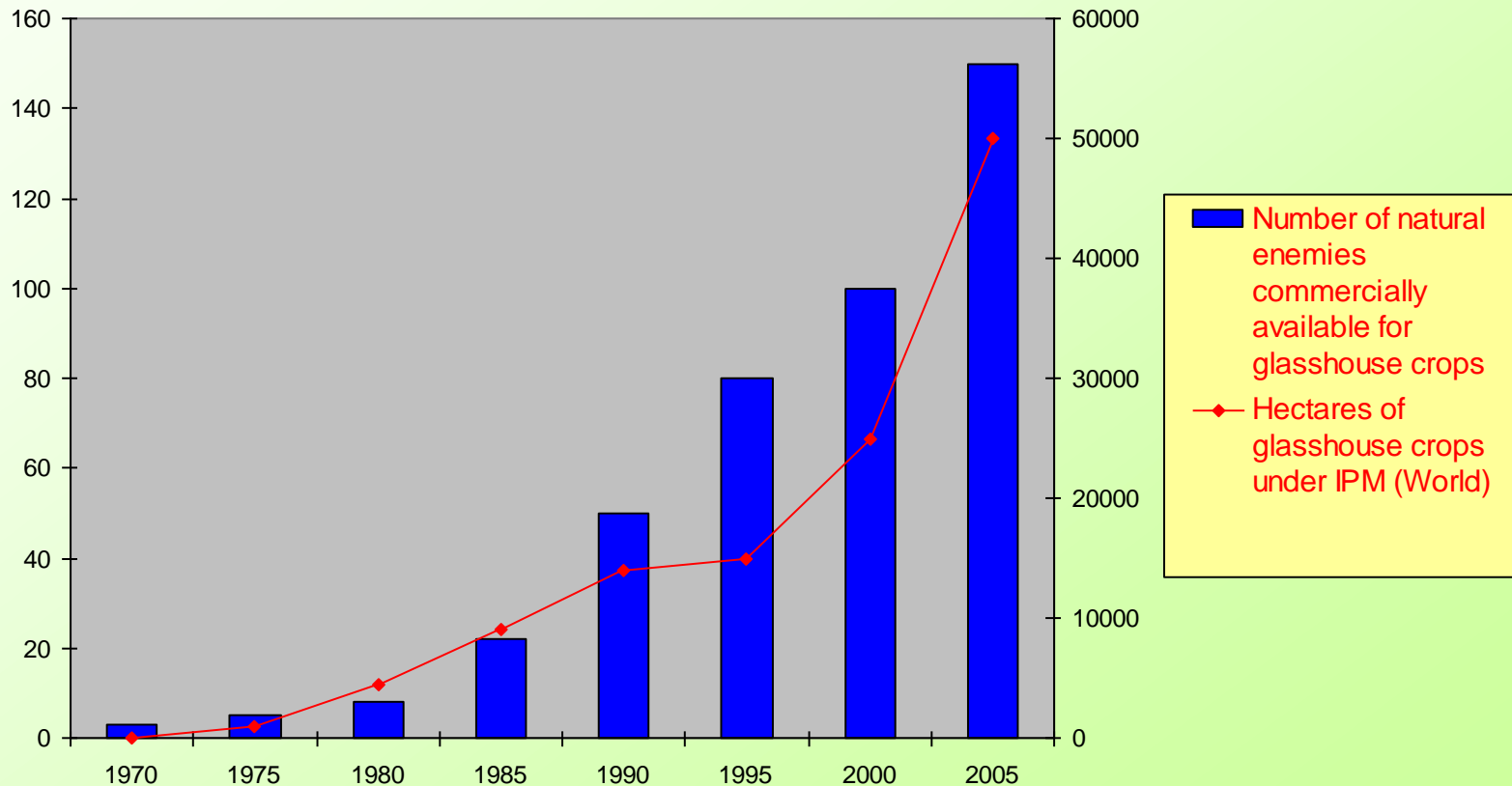
- **from rationalising pesticide use to IPM** (based on a **mandatory package of agronomic practices at farm level** - annual crops: crop rotation, winter cover and green infrastructure; periannual: permanent pasture, cover crops and green infrastructure), while substituting with safer alternatives, and
- **encourage front runners on voluntary basis to ICM, in a step by step approach** obtaining robust agro-ecosystems delivering natural control of insect pests and reduced disease and weed pressure

If biodiversity is to be restored in Europe and opportunities are to be created for crop production utilizing biodiversity-based ecosystem services such as biological pest control, there must be a Europe-wide shift towards farming with minimum use of pesticides over large areas

Geiger, F. et al. Persistent negative effects of pesticides on biodiversity and biological control potential on European farmland. Basic and Applied Ecology (2010), doi: 10.1016/j.baae.2009.12.001

Where are we now?

- **It depends on the sector** (e.g. IPM/BC in glass houses is already mainstream)



(Van Lenteren, 2006)

Where are we now?

Used by 50% or more farmers	Used by 20-35%	Used by less than 10%
Crop rotation	Some element of mechanical weed control	Using pheromones to monitor pest levels
Improved field margins	Flower strips to encourage natural enemies	Sowing a mixture of crop cultivars in the same field
Timing field operations to reduce risk of pest, disease or weed problems	Beetle bank strips in large fields to shelter ground predators for aphid control	Introducing predators for pest control
Sowing disease or insect resistant varieties		Using pheromone traps to control pests
Hand pulling problem weeds		Using trap crops to attract pests away from the cereal crop
Sowing different cereal varieties in different fields		
Spot spraying		

IPM on arable land – still a long way to go

Source: Overcoming market and technical obstacles to alternative pest management in arable systems. Rural Economy & Land Use Programme Policy Note 10. Oct 2009 (www.relu.ac.uk)

The way forward

‘IPM programmes have demonstrated that current levels of pesticides use in many circumstances are not necessary and frequently, are even counterproductive.

What is needed is a strong political will, backed up by consumer awareness and market responses. Then the road is open to detoxify agriculture.’

‘The Pesticide detox – towards a sustainable agriculture’, edited by Jules Pretty, Earthscan 2005

- 1. Consumer awareness exist:** EU citizens continue to consider pesticides residue levels in fruit, vegetables and cereals as their main concern regarding food related risks (special Eurobarometer 354, November 2010).
- 2. Political will, good starting point, but still work to be done:** A serious CAP reform compensating farmers for delivering of sustainable agronomic practices rather than past production – mandatory package of measures at the base
- 3. Though, on market responses there is still a long way to go...**

Market responses through differentiation

To encourage sustainability, we need to become better at differentiating according to production methods.

A recent EU survey on *Public confidence in sources of information on food safety*, shows that

- 71% of EU citizens trust environmental protection groups,
- 58% trust farmers, while
- only around 35% trust retailers and food manufacturers

(special Eurobarometer 354, November 2010)

So, the way forward might be engaging with NGOs like PAN Europe to promote front running projects.

Market differentiation by PAN

E

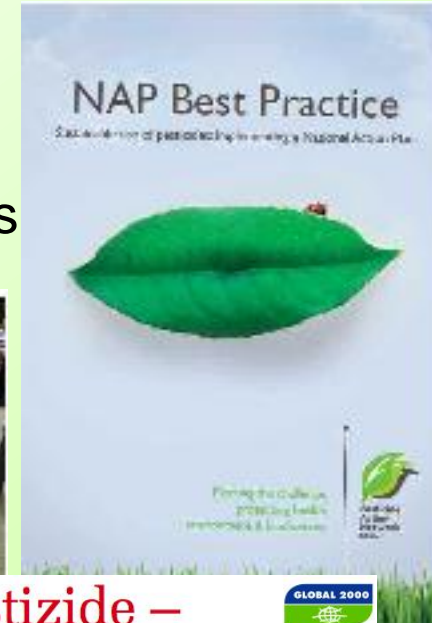
What we traditionally do which can help differentiation between countries and regions:

- Identification of sustainable pesticide reduction programmes
- Residue testing ranging products and Supermarkets

Sometimes PAN E members help too:

- Analyse national residue testing and publish result (DK & IT)
- Monitor residue programmes in supermarkets (AU)
- Advise supermarkets on pesticide lists (UK)

..



Market differentiation by PAN

E

Differentiation at farmer group level:

- Start identifying progressive IPM farmers groups (FR & NL)

Differentiation at farm level:

- Bee friendly competition (FR, NL, DE, IT, UK, ..)

We would like to expand our list, and would like to hear from other farmers groups believing to be progressive and/or having progressive ideas on how to increase collaboration.

Thank you for your attention

