

# Sensitive areas and buffer zones in the SUR

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# Background

- The importance of sensitive areas and buffer zones in the SUR regulation to reduce exposure of children and other vulnerable groups to pesticide drift
- Pesticides package
- Reports on SUD implementation: COM reports, EPRS, ECA
- Green Deal/ Farm to Fork
- Other measures – IPM, training, application equipment, etc.



# Sustainable Use Directive

- Member States obliged to ensure use of pesticides “minimized or prohibited” in specific areas and to take appropriate risk management measures and prioritize low-risk pesticides
- Areas used by the general public or by vulnerable groups, such as public parks and gardens, sports and recreation grounds, school grounds and children’s playgrounds and in the close vicinity of healthcare facilities
- SUD evaluation: poor and uneven implementation



# SUR proposal and non-paper on sensitive areas

- Areas used by the general public
- Vulnerable groups (e.g. children, pregnant women, the elderly)
- Human settlements: continuous/ discontinuous urban fabric, green urban areas, sports and leisure facilities
- 3-metre buffer zone



# SUR proposal and non-paper on sensitive areas

- SUR proposal: full ban, derogations for invasive alien species/ quarantine pests
- Non-paper: low-risk and biological control, derogations also
- Article 241 study: Plant Health Law derogations
- 3 metre buffer zone
- EP COM ENV: low-risk, biological control, organic



# COM additional study published in July 2023

- Public and urban areas and areas used by vulnerable groups are primarily included with the aim of protecting public health
- Effects of cumulative exposure
- Risks to human health associated with incorrect use
- Biodiversity benefits



# COM additional study published in July 2023

- Aesthetic objectives: differentiated management, spontaneous flora
- Citizen preferences – natural visual appearance, fauna, recreational opportunities
- Cemeteries and sports grounds
- Tools – quick transition
- EU-level action for knowledge sharing networks, public communication, simplifying administration for national authorities



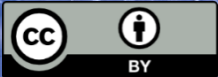
# Useful links

- [https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/pesticides\\_sup\\_comm-response\\_2022-2572\\_en.pdf](https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/pesticides_sup_comm-response_2022-2572_en.pdf) – link to additional study
- [https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-01/pesticides\\_sud\\_sur-non-paper\\_en.pdf](https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-01/pesticides_sud_sur-non-paper_en.pdf) – link to non-paper on sensitive areas





# Thank you



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