

PAN Europe

Pesticides Action Network Europe

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To: National representatives for agriculture statistics

Subject: Regulation on Pesticide Use Statistics

The European Commission Communication "Towards a Thematic Strategy on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides" recommends, among other measures, to develop elements to improve (...) *better control of the use and distribution of pesticides*. We are aware that the Commission is currently developing a Directive on pesticide use statistics and that your agency is involved in the discussion.

PAN Europe believes that detailed pesticide use data are an essential tool for the evaluation of trends in pesticide use and the protection of human health and the environment. Already in 2002 and 2003 we conducted EU funded research on how pesticide use data can be utilised and what would be needed to implement an effective pesticide use reporting system in Europe. Both reports are enclosed to your attention.

We therefore request all your efforts to improve the data situation in the European Union. Particularly we ask you to stress out that any future legislation should include the following minimum components:

1. Detailed mandatory record keeping at farm level for all pesticide applicators;
2. Annual and representative usage surveys on all relevant crops and areas;
3. Publication and dissemination of usage data (crop, region, amounts, active ingredients, treatment frequency);
4. Annual collection, publication and dissemination of Member States sales data (amount/active ingredients).
5. Annual collection and publication of MS pesticide exports data

Thank you very much for your attention.
Yours sincerely,

Carina Weber
(PAN Europe Chair)