# EPPO CODES to describe uses of Plant Protection Products

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## The EPPO Working Party on PPP outlined the need for developing non-taxonomic codes to describe PPP uses

The main reasons for the development are:

- The need for harmonized definitions of declared uses of products to facilitate comparison among countries (mutual recognition and zonal assessment called for in EU Regulation 1107/2009).
- Facilitate the work related to extrapolation of data (e.g. for efficacy evaluation of minor uses)
- Facilitate communication and data exchange (e.g. in databases)

**Communication and data sharing** between different actors at different levels where the EPPO Codes can be used:

- 1. Applicants and evaluators within the country;
- 2. Evaluators of the Zonal Rapporteur Member States and Concerned Member States for mutual recognition at EU level;
- 3. Country evaluators and the EU;
- 4. Efficacy evaluators and residue, ecotoxicology and human toxicology evaluators;
- 5. Regulatory authorities and advisors/farmers within the country.

### EPPO Ad hoc Panel on Harmonization of data on PPP



## Based on regulatory authorities and industry perspectives on EPPO codes the Panel agreed on the following principles:

- EPPO maintains the principle that codes are not deleted or modified nor is the meaning of a code changed retrospectively;
- EPPO code users should be consulted on significant changes to codes. This does not include routine additions of taxonomic codes.
- All the EPPO Codes (taxonomic and non-taxonomic) remain in one single database (EPPO GD);

## Ad hoc Panel on Harmonization of data on PPP

Future activities on the development of the codes for PPP uses:

- A **harmonised system** to consistently characterize PPP uses and a code hierarchy are needed for the EPPO region.
- Groupings and codes should be as simple as possible addressing practical needs, being meaningful in the context of treatment with PPP and having been found useful for registration purposes;
- In certain cases, lists of species are needed to clarify and harmonise the content of (Crop) groups. In other cases (Pests, Weed? Etc.) a description will be sufficient;
- Need to start with first proposals (crop groups and pest groups are a priority);

Where to start from to develop groups and codes?

1)

## **EPPO Standard PP 1/248**

 While developing the code system the Panel will consider the elements proposed by the EPPO Standard PP 1/248 Harmonized classification and coding of the uses of plant protection products

Elements recommended for characterizing a use:

- Crops or other treated objects
- Crop destination
- Treatment
- Location of use
- Target
- The principle that a PPP use can be described by a combination of codes

Where to start from to develop groups and codes?

2)

## Non-taxonomic elements in EPPO Global Database

- Elements developed by Bayer
- Codes created by EPPO to respond to specific users' requests for the use in the EPPO Plant Quarantine Data Retrieval System (PQR)

The non-taxonomic items already existing in the EPPO GD will be maintained and enlarged as much as possible

**Need for improvement?** 

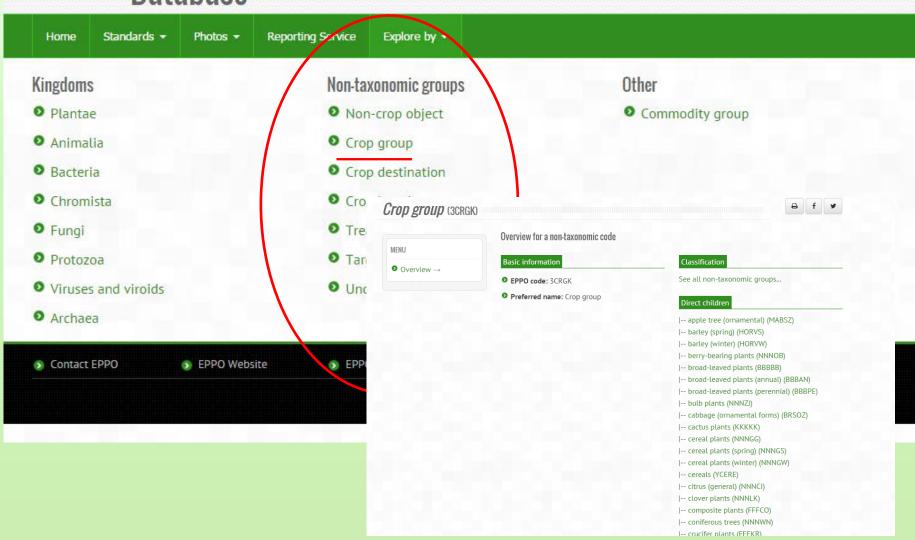


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## Short term Agenda of the Panel on Harmonization of data on PPP

#### **Crop Groups**

The Panel developed first proposals based on national methodologies for:

- Arable crops (including Cereals)
- Vegetables
- Fruit
- Herbs, spices and medicinal plants
- Ornamental crops
- Etc.

#### **Pest Groups and Weed Groups**

### Other non-taxonomic groups

(i.e. crop destination, crop location, treatment, non-crop objects)



### Governance

## for creation and maintenance of EPPO non-taxonomic codes

- The EPPO Secretariat cannot rely on any 'external scientific authority' as
  it does for taxonomic codes: The EPPO Panel on Harmonization of
  data on PPP had been proposed as a suitable body.
- The elements characterizing PPP uses will be developed by the ad hoc Panel in consultation with users;
- The requests for additions to non-taxonomic codes will have to await consideration by the Panel; A fast track mechanism to adopt codes which are urgently needed might be used between meetings; A format for change requests to be submitted by users could be developed for groups and hierarchy.

