Minor Uses Developments

48th Meeting of the Working Party on Plant Protection Products
The Hague, The Netherlands, 23-25 May 2018
Jeroen Meeussen - Coordinator
Outline

- EU Minor Uses Coordination Facility: overview of activities
- Long-term funding
- REFIT process
- Way forward
EU Minor Uses Coordination Facility (MUCF)

Because of the extensive data packages required for authorization to market plant protection products, growers face increasing difficulties in gaining authorization for "minor uses". Minor uses of pesticides are used on niche crops with a high economic value for farmers, but usually of low economic interest for the agro-pesticide industry. This leads to a lack of authorized products on the market for farmers to use on these crops which in turn can lead to illegal uses or to loss of crop production. These crops include most vegetables, fruit, nurseries, flowers, forest trees and some arable crops. It is estimated that overall they represent more than € 70 billion per year, which equates to 22% of the total EU plant production value.

Recent News

Autumn Minor Uses meetings
The next autumn meetings of the Horizontal Expert Group and of some Commodity Expert Groups will be hosted by our Austrian Minor Uses colleagues in Vienna! The meetings will take place from 10 to 12 October 2018. The MUCF is in the process of defining which Commodity Expert Groups will meet there. More information will follow.

Fifth newsletter of the MUCF
The MUCF is pleased to release the 5th newsletter. Find more about the contributions to long-term funding of the MUCF; feedback from Second Stakeholder Advisory Forum, Integrated Pest Management, spring Minor Uses meetings, the Guidance Document on Minor Uses, EPPO non taxonomic classification, REPT activities, the new Chair of the Horizontal Expert Group and future Minor Uses and OECD meetings. Click here to access the fifth newsletter of the MUCF.

Subscribe to Our Newsletter!

https://www.minoruses.eu/
Stakeholder Advisory Forum

“Already excellent progress is achieved by the MUCF”.
Launch of New EUMUDA!!!

28 June 2017
EUMUDA Homepage

WELCOME to the European Union Minor Uses Database EUMUDA!

EUMUDA is an important tool to collect the minor use needs from Member States, to follow-up on these needs and to manage all projects. This database plays a key role in finding chemical and/or non-chemical solutions for minor uses gaps, within an Integrated Pest Management framework.

nd in EUMUDA?

es needs from Member States. The current list is sourced from the CIPEM Branch projects and their status.

re considered “minor uses” in different Member States (by clicking on the map below for Countries who have published information).

projects is accessible for everybody. The MUCF is working on rules for access rights and confidentiality.

er States are in the process to populate EUMUDA with more data.
What information can I find in EUMUDA?

- A compiled list of *minor uses needs* from countries of the European region.
- **GMUS survey**: a priority list on behalf of the EU.
- An overview of *ongoing projects* and their status.
- A table of *crop acreages* sourced from EUROSTAT.
- **Reference lists** of what are considered ‘minor uses’ in different Member States.

**MUCF documents:**

- Rules for *access rights and confidentiality*
- **Guide** for users of EUMUDA
Minor uses needs
Priorities GMUS survey

1. Strawberry/ Botrytis
2. Blueberry/ Spotted wing drosophila
3. Raspberry/ Spotted wing drosophila
# Projects in EUMUDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CEG</th>
<th>Nb projects</th>
<th>Leading country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Pest/Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fruits and vegetables</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Germany, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Belgium, Sweden, France</td>
<td>Small fruits, pome fruits, leafy vegetables (excl. Brassicas), umbelliferous vegetables, vegetable brassicas, cucurbitaceae, alliums, herbs, legumes, brassica arable crops</td>
<td>Aphids, thrips, drosophila, weeds, fungi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ornamentals</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Netherlands, Belgium</td>
<td>Ornamentals, chrysanthemum</td>
<td>Thrips, growth regulators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hops</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Germany, France, Belgium</td>
<td>Hops</td>
<td>European hop beetle, annual meadow grass, Damson-hop aphid, defoliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>France, the Netherlands</td>
<td>Cucumber, carrot, bean, parsley, chicory, onion, beetroot</td>
<td>Green pigweed, pineapple weed, black nightshade, pythium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commodity Expert Groups

Currently there are 7 Commodity Expert Groups (CEG):

- CEG fruit and vegetables
- CEG ornamentals
- CEG tobacco
- CEG rice
- CEG hops
- CEG seeds
- CEG mushrooms
Expert Group Meetings

- **CEG-Hops, 18-19 October 2017, Obernai (FR)**
  - 17 participants from 8 different countries

- **The meetings of the Chairs of the CEGs, CEG F&V, CEG Seeds, CEG Ornamentals and CEG Tobacco and the HEG were all held back-to-back**
  - **1-3 November 2017, Dublin (IE)**
  - 75 participants from 21 different countries

- **The meetings of the Chairs of the CEGs, the individual CEGs and the HEG were all held back-to-back**
  - **13-15 March 2018, Brussels (BE)**
  - 120 participants from 20 different countries
Clear Rules for Membership of Expert Groups

EUROPEAN UNION MINOR USES COORDINATION FACILITY

Participation of experts in Commodity Expert Groups (CEGs) and the Horizontal Expert Group (HEG)

The EU Minor Uses Coordination Facility should develop clear rules on the composition of and the number of attendees in the Expert Groups.

Approved by the Steering Group on 22 November 2017
Clear Rules for Membership of Expert Groups

- **Expertise** (according to Terms of Reference)
- **Active and constructive** participation in the meetings
- Providing **agenda items and supporting documents**
- Adding relevant information to **EUMUDA**
- Acting as a **project leader**
- **Participating in projects** with other Member States
- **Responding to requests** from the MUCF (e.g. survey)
Establishment of a New Commodity Expert Group

EUROPEAN UNION MINOR USES COORDINATION FACILITY

Final Rev. 1

Procedure and criteria how to start a new Commodity Expert Group

The term “Commodity Expert Group” refers to a platform to close in a joint effort minor use gaps at EU level by finding chemical or non-chemical solutions within an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) framework. The Commodity Expert Group consists of national minor use experts and representatives of the respective growers’ associations or grower groups.

Approved by the Steering Group on 22 November 2017
Establishment of a New Commodity Expert Group

- In general, when a **certain number** of Member States and growers’ associations representing a **substantial percentage** of the EU-production of that commodity are willing to comply with the Terms of Reference of a CEG it should be possible to start a new CEG.

- Document will be put on hold until the financial situation of the MUCF has been clarified.
Guidance Document

Guidance Document for applicants (industry as well as growers associations) on registration issues for minor uses.

- Compact overview on all registration issues and focus on interpretation of data requirements, data protection, data ownership, confidential data, zonal procedure, mutual recognition.

- Part 1: minor use need -> generating data
  Part 2: application process -> solution

- Noted by Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed.
Where are we with the Guidance Document?

- **Drafting Group**: BE, DE, FR, NL, SE, UK, ECPA, IBMA, Copa-Cocega, MUCF
- 1st meeting 15-16 September 2016
- 2nd meeting 13-14 February 2018
- 22-23 March 2018 SCoPAFF: agreement on ‘Terms of Reference’
- 3rd meeting 16-17 April 2018
- Discussion in PAI (Post Approval Issues) Group in June 2018
- Draft ready for circulation to COM, MS and stakeholders for commenting
- Depending on comments received: further discussions and meetings
- Note taking in SCoPAFF
Outline

- EU Minor Uses Coordination Facility: overview of activities
- Long-term funding
- REFIT process
- Way forward
The funding of the Coordination Facility was guaranteed for the first three years (until April 2018).

EUMUCF was jointly funded by the European Union and the governments of France, Germany and the Netherlands.

The total eligible costs were estimated at EUR 700,000 per year.
Long-term funding

- It is clear that minor uses problems will not all be resolved in three years.
- A mid-/long-term planning (5-10 years) and a strategy how other Member States can contribute, has been prepared.
- A letter from the European Commission has been sent to Permanent Representations of the EU Member States (September 2017).
- Discussion in the AGRI-FISH Council meeting on 9 October 2017.
- Member States have been approached with a request for a voluntary assessed contribution (November 2017).
Conclusions

- It must be emphasized that only with the indicated voluntary assessed contributions the continuity of the Coordination Facility can be guaranteed.

- In other scenarios there will be an effect on staffing, EUMUDA and/or reimbursement of expenses for Expert Groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Member State</th>
<th>Annual contribution</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>DE, FR, UK, IT, ES, PL</td>
<td>EUR 50 000</td>
<td>EUR 300 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>RO, NL, BE, EL, CZ, PT, HU, SE, AT, BG, DK, FI, SK</td>
<td>EUR 25 000</td>
<td>EUR 325 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>IE, HR, LT, SI, LV, EE, CY, LU, MT</td>
<td>EUR 10 000</td>
<td>EUR 90 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total per annum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EUR 715 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current Financial Situation

Financial situation 2018

- Grant agreement applicable until mid-April 2018
- Contributions and Commitments received from: AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, FI, FR, IE, IT, LT, LV, NL, SE, SK
- The amount not spent in the first two years (EUR 150 000)
- Total amount currently available for the period mid April - end 2018: EUR 450 000

Financial situation 2019

- Commitments: EUR 165 000
- The amount not spent in the third year (EUR 50 000)
- In the case the budget is less than EUR 350 000 the MUCF will not be able to maintain existing staffing levels
Minor Uses Steering Group

- **DG AGRI** has been approached with a request for funding.
- Explore the possibility of funding of the Coordination Facility via EPPO-contributions.
- Work towards **long(er) commitments** and financial agreements with Member States for several years.
- **Funders** will take part in **governance** of the Coordination Facility.
- Arrangements will be discussed for a steering group to be **appointed by the whole body of funders**.
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REFIT

Regulatory Fitness & Performance Program

Formal evaluation process of Reg (EC) 1107/2009 and Reg (EC) 396/2005

Commission's commitment to ensure that EU legislation is **effective** and **efficient** in achieving its public policy objectives at **minimum cost**.

**Review Clause:**
Article 82: Reg (EC) 1107/2009
Article 47: Reg (EC) 396/2005
Follow-Up

Disseminating & following-up

- Action plan
- SWD

Preparation

- Commission proposal

Adoption

- Co-legislative process

???
Involvement MUCF in REFIT

- 1\textsuperscript{st} Stakeholder meeting (12 September 2017)
- Online survey for stakeholders (December 2017)
- Focus Group on the authorisation of Plant Protection Products (5 March 2018)
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} Stakeholder meeting (16 May 2018)
A harmonized EU-wide definition (instead of national definitions) would facilitate the zonal process.

Member States should move away from asking ‘national specific requirements’.

The use of residue data generated outside the EU should be supported.

MRL applications should be maximally extrapolated for minor uses.

Availability of low risk products is insufficient.

Etc.
The availability of PPPs for **minor uses** is negatively affected by a lack of clarity regarding the rules for authorisation and of harmonisation between MS.

The **definition of minor uses** is not sufficiently clear. Procedures are often not clearly established.

Competent Authorities and stakeholders **welcome the establishment** of the Coordination Facility (MUCF).

**Improve acceptance of data on residue trials generated outside the EU** (when GAPs and GLPs are comparable) and **extrapolations**.
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What we plan to do next (I)

- Guarantee sustainable long-term funding of the Minor Uses Coordination Facility

**Expert Groups**

- Continue to provide *administrative and technical support* to the Expert Groups in organising meetings and managing ongoing projects
- *Increase participation* at meetings and in projects from more countries
- Organise *plenary sessions* with topics of general interest (e.g. residues)
- Develop *work plans* for the individual Commodity Expert Groups
- Review the *participation of experts* to Expert Groups
- Develop *IPM solutions* for minor use needs
What we plan to do next (II)

**EU-level**
- Encourage the removal of national specific requirements for minor use applications
- Maintain and reinforce the link with the EU database PPPAMS
- Create a level playing field for EU growers of speciality crops
- Meet some of the largest Member States (e.g. ES, PL)

**International level**
- Continue to cooperate with global minor uses programmes to stimulate international harmonisation
- Play an active role in the OECD Expert Group on Minor Uses (EGMU)
What we plan to do next (III)

**Long(er) term**

- Explore whether the EUMUDA database could also eventually host the **Global Minor Uses Database**
- Introduce **national projects** from all Member States in EUMUDA
- Organise **EU priority setting meetings** at an annual basis
- Explore the possibility to create an **EU fund** for minor uses

**BENEFITS**

Solve minor use problems!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

ANY QUESTIONS

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