

# Pesticide legislation & the availability of pesticides



Ministry of Economic Affairs

**Johan Edens**  
Policy Advisor

Netherlands Food and Consumer  
Product Safety Authority (NVWA)



# Legislation

- Aim: reduce risks
- Also affects the availability of pesticides



## Available substances in the EU

- EU review programme 2003 – 2010: -73%
- How will it go further in the future



## Legislation which affects the availability

- Regulation on plant protection products (1107/2009)
- Regulation on maximum residue levels (MRL's)(396/2005)
- Directive on sustainable use pesticides (2009/128)
- New developments





## Regulation on PPP (1107/2009)

### 1. Sublethal effects on Bees

#### New:

- Chronic effects on colony survival
- Effects on bee behaviour
- Effect on bumblebees and solitary bees

#### Impact?

- 2013: restrictions/withdrawal of 3 neonics and fipronil on plants that are attractive to bees
- EFSA: renewal of 2 other neonics



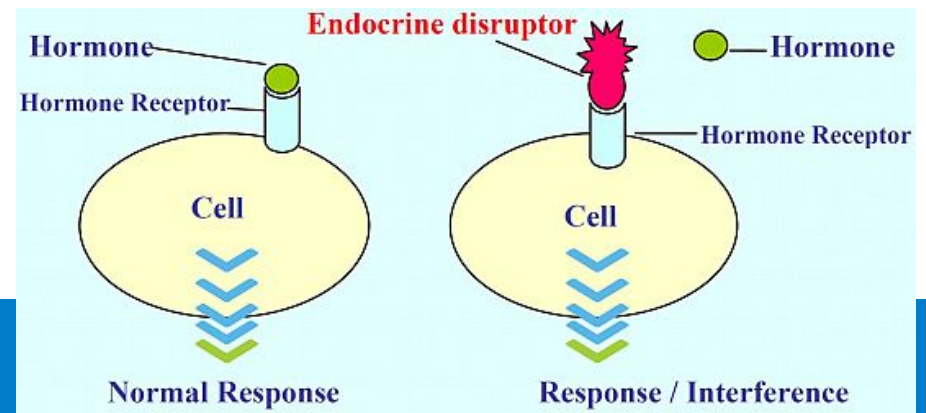
## Regulation on PPP (1107/2009)

### 2. Endocrine disruptors

- Substances that interfere with hormonal action in humans and animals
- New criterium, still under development (on-line consultation)

#### Impact?

- EFSA published a priority list (draft!)
  - cat. 1, 2 and 3 substances
  - cat. 1 = evidence of endocrine disrupting activity
  - E.g. maneb, thiram, linuron, metam-sodium





Regulation on PPP (1107/2009)

### 3. Comparative assessment

- Aim: reducing risks by replacing PPP if there is a good alternative with a lower risk

#### **Impact?**

- Low for agriculture
- It can stimulate the use of IPM-methods

#### **Actual status:**

- Draft EU guidance doc
- Under discussion



## Regulation on MRL's (396/2005) Cumulative exposure (Combi-tox)

- Risks of pesticides with a similar mode of action will be combined

### **Actual status:**

EFSA: under construction

### **Impact?**

More substances above the MRL?







## Directive sustainable use pesticides (2009/128) **Reduction of pesticide use in specific areas**

### **Art. 12:**

- In 'areas used by the general public'
- 'the use of pesticides is minimised or prohibited'

### **Impact:**

NL: prohibition of pesticide use in public areas in 2018





## New developments

E.g. Risk for Residents

**Actual status:**

- EFSA develops an evaluation method



**Impact?**

- NL: strict restrictions for soil fumigation with metam-sodium
- Problems with nematodes



## Legislation also has positive effects

- **low risk pesticides:** fast track procedure?
- **Zonal evaluation & mutual recognition**
- **MS may stimulate the authorisation for minor uses**



## Overall effect of legislation on availability?

- Many new methods and criteria: draft
- Not possible to quantify
- Likely: further decrease of availability
- More pest and disease problems
- Specially in minor crops





## Questions:

How does this affect IPM?

- Positive effects
- Negative effects

- Can IPM mitigate plant protection problems? How?
- Do we need to change our research strategy?
- Where should we focus on?



**Thank you for your attention**



**Questions?**