



EU legislation on the use and control of pesticides

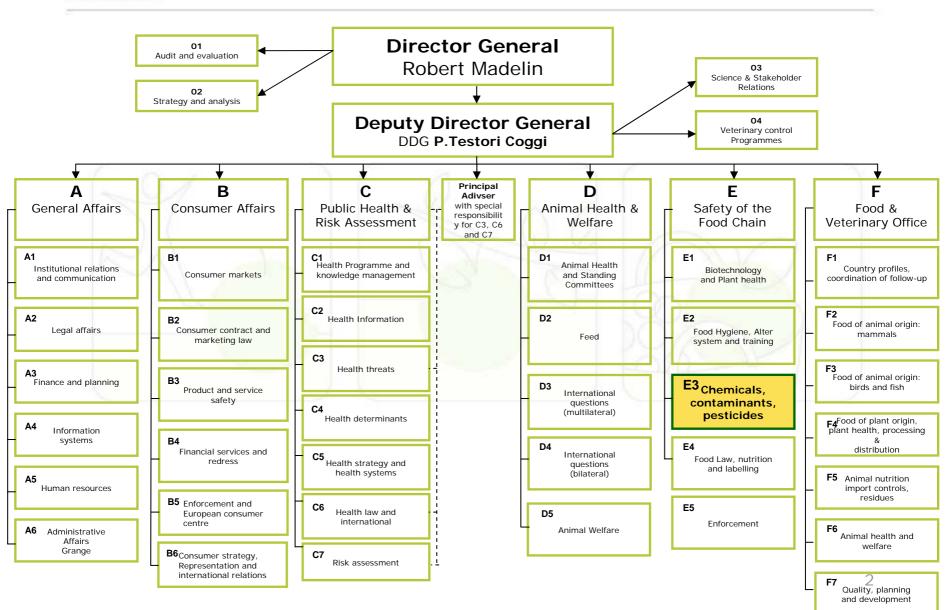
Francesca Arena
European Commission
Health and Consumers Directorate General

Joint Regional Symposium on Regulation of Pesticide Residues in Food Hong Kong 27-28 March 2009





DG SANCO: Our structure



WE LOOK AFTER WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE...

Does this cabbage contain too much heavy metals (lead; ...)?

Does this bread contain high levels of acrylamide?

Too much pesticide?

Additives (e.g. colours, sweeteners and preservatives) such as acesulo fame-k (E950), aspartame (E951)

Plastic, wood, ceramic... risk from substances migrating into food?

Do these dairy products contain aflatorins?

Are these flavourings safes

Does this salami contain Sudan Red, an unauthorised colour?

What about hormones?

How about residues
of veterinary medicinal products?

Are these shrimps irradiated?

How much PCBs dicrems?

CHEMICAL, FOOD

UNITES - CHEMICALS, CONTAMINANTS AND

SAFETY

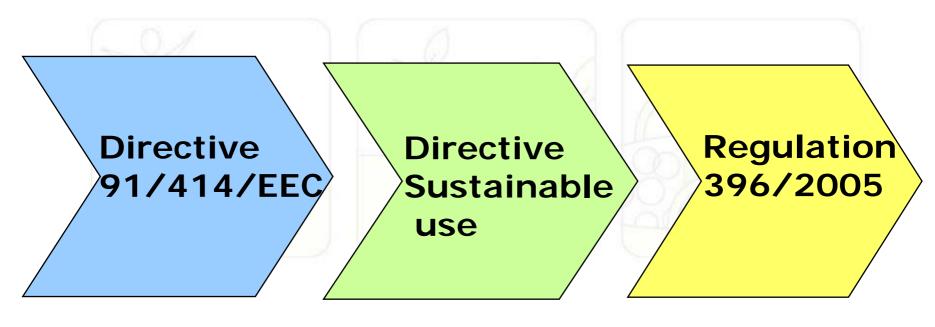
D PESTICIDES





Plant protection products

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK



PREMARKETING APPROVAL

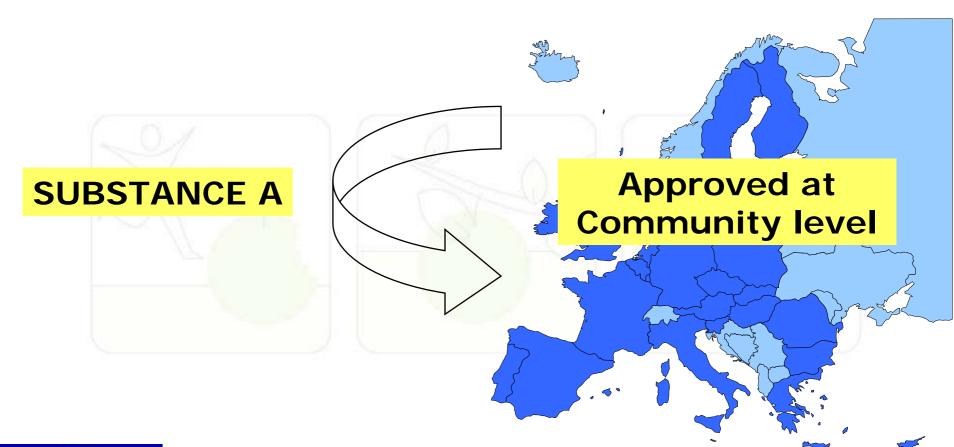
USE PHASE

RESIDUES IN FOOD/FEED





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC





One decision applying to all the 27 Member States





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC

Plant protection products (formulations) containing the substance A

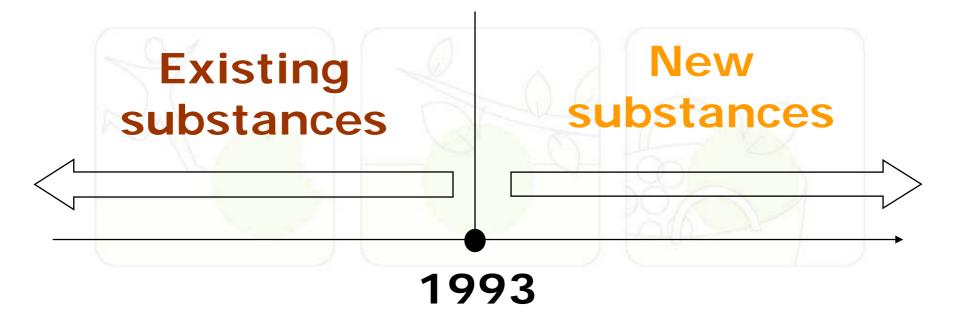






Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC

2 Streams



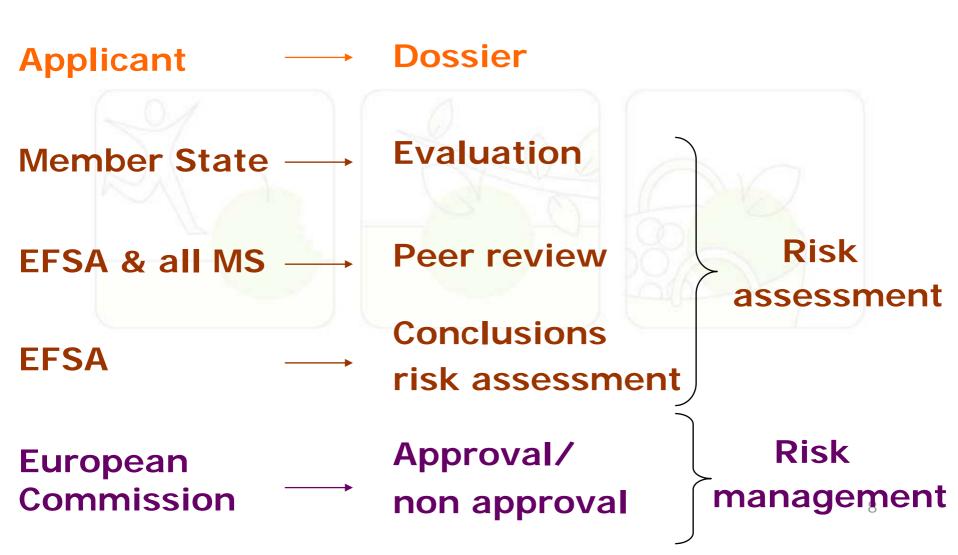
same evaluation criteria, but slightly different procedures





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC

Approval of active substances





Evaluation criteria for the approval of substances

- Operator, worker, residents exposure
- Consumer exposure
- Groundwater contamination
- Impact on non target-organisms
 - Birds, mammals, bees, soil micro and macro-organisms, aquatic organisms





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC

Is the substance safe?

Human health Environment

YES

APPROVAL

INCLUSION in EU positive list (ANNEX I)
10 years

NO

NON APPROVAL

Uses to expire in the EU at the latest 18 months after non approval







What if a substance is not approved?



Although the substance is not approved in the EU, existing import tolerances can be kept or new ones can be set provided that they are safe





Impact on MRLs

What if a substance is not approved?

Non approval Decision

1 year

Submission of MRLs underlying data

EFSA evaluates existing MRLs

3 months

Commission proposal

But not final decision!

- SPS Notification (60 days)
- Consider new data submitted via SPS
- Adoption procedure

At least 6 months







Impact on MRLs

What if a substance is not approved?

Non approval Decision



Entry into force new MRLs

If existing MRLs (import tolerances) are safe and supported by data, they will be kept!



Review programme on Existing active substances

- Launched in 1993
- 983 substances, divided in 4 stages
- Finalised in March 2009



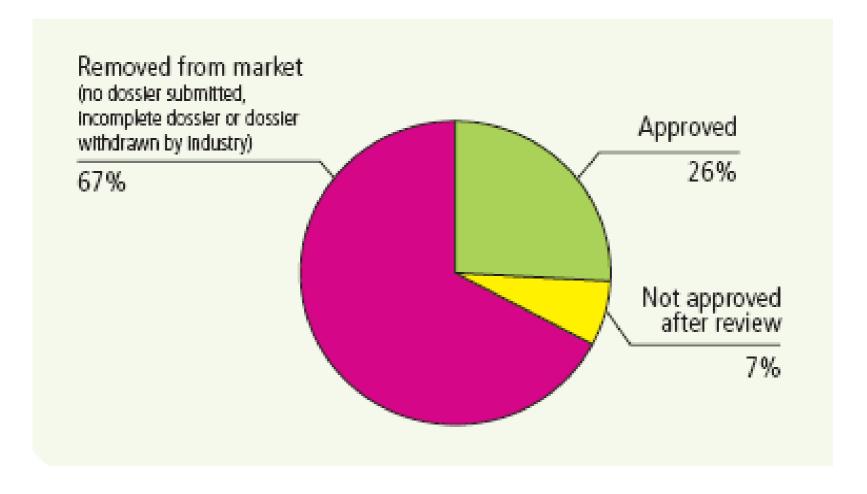






Directorate-General for Health & Consumers Directive 91/414/EEC

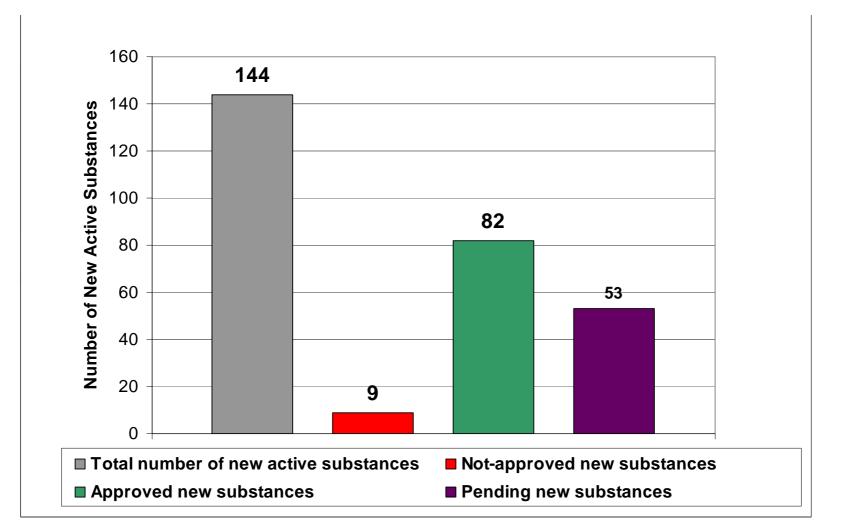
Review programme on existing active substances







Overview of Decisions on new substances 1993-2009







DATABASE on Active substances







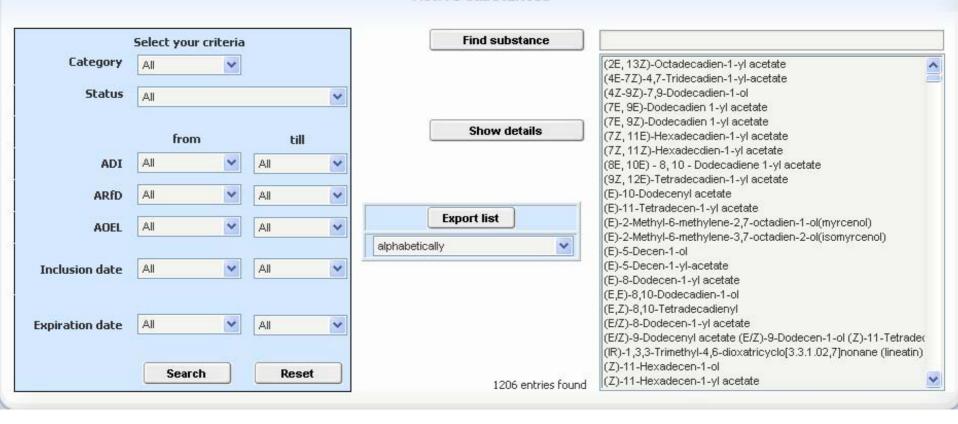
DATABASE on Active substances



EU Pesticides database

Homepage Search Download

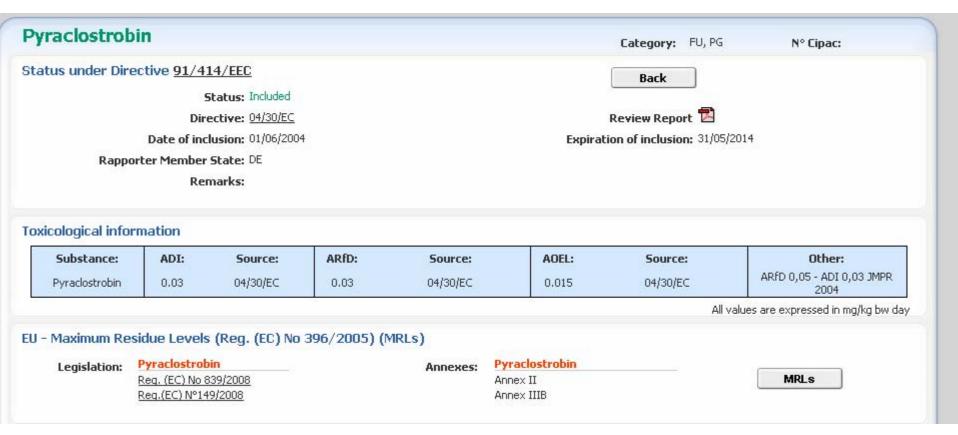
Active substances







DATABASE on Active substances

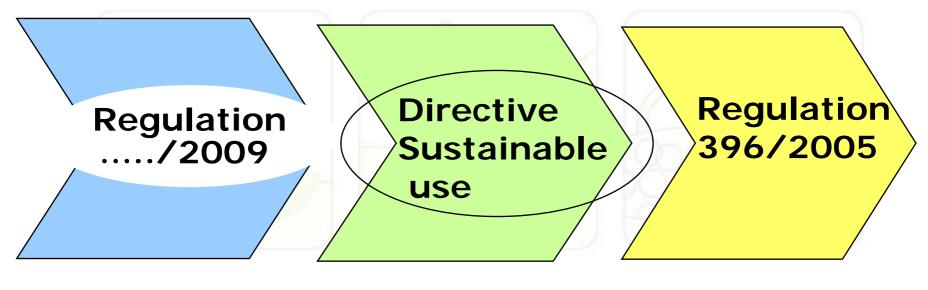






Plant protection products

FUTURE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK



PREMARKETING APPROVAL

USE PHASE

RESIDUES IN FOOD/FEED





- Commission proposal: July 2006
- Co-decision procedure (European Parliament and Council): finalised January 2009
- Publication: expected mid 2009
- Application: expected end 2010



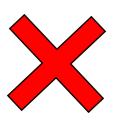




Will the new rules apply immediately to all substances?



New substances



Approved substances or substances under evaluation

New rules will apply at renewal of approval





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers New Regulation on PPPs

Main changes Directive Regulation M/EEC/2009





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers New Regulation on PPPs

Dual system maintained

- Active substances approved at EU level
- Products approved at country level

with a change:

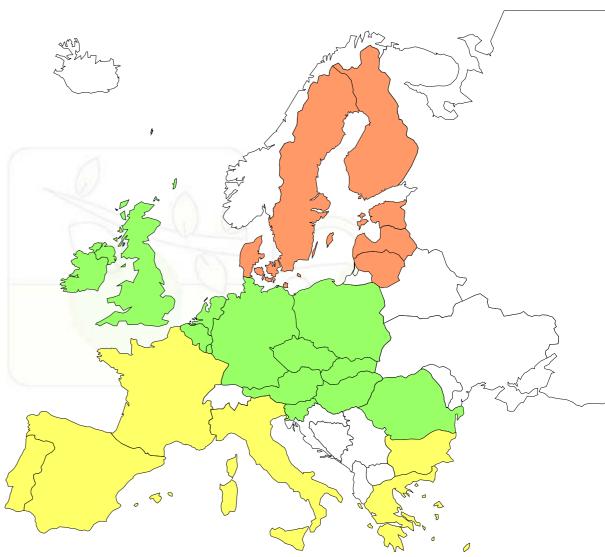
zonal system for authorisations of Plant protection products





Zonal system

- North
- Center
- South







CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

Exclude from the market substances of high concern (health and environment)

- Carcinogens (cat 1,2)
- Mutagens (cat 1,2)
- Toxic for reproduction (cat 1,2)
- Endocrine disruptors
- POP (persistent organic pollutant)
- PBT (persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic)
- vPvB (very persistent and very bioaccumulative)





DEROGATION TO THE CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

- Applicable to carcinogens (cat 2), endocrine distruptors, substances toxic for reproduction (cat 2)
- Max 5 years approval; minimise exposure!
- Control of a serious danger to plant health which cannot be contained by other available means





Application of CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

- Criteria: to be applied to already approved substances <u>only at the time</u> <u>of renewal</u>
- First inclusion normally for 10 years
- Most of renewals will be after 2015





Will MRLs be affected?

- MRLs ruled under Reg. (EC) No 396/2005
- Import tolerances can be set under Reg. (EC) No 396/2005
- Risk assessment carried out by EFSA
- Risk management decision taken by the Commission





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers New Regulation on PPPs

SUBSTITUTION PRINCIPLE

- Substances of high risk
- Comparative assessment between authorised products
- Substitution by and search for safer alternatives

List of candidates for substitution: by 2013





LOW RISK SUBSTANCES

- Longer approval (15 years)
- Separate list
- Specific criteria for approval may be set in future





BASIC SUBSTANCES

- Not predominantly used as PPP but nevertheless useful in plant protection
- No concerns
- E.g. foodstuff

Approval for unlimited period of time





SYNERGYSTS, SAFENERS

- Subject to Community approval
- Data requirements and review programme to be defined by 2014





Directorate-General for Health & Consumers New Regulation on PPPs

COFORMULANTS

- Negative list
- Detailed rules to be defined by 2014





CLEAR DEADLINES

APPROVAL SUBSTANCES

- 1. Risk assessment:
 - Rapporteur Member State
 - European Food Safety Authority

2. Risk management (Commission)

26-38 months

AUTHORISATION of PPPs

Member State level

12-18 months

Regional Symposium on Regulation of Pesticide Residues in Food





OTHER MAIN CHANGES

- Obligation to avoid repetitive testing on animals
- Report on costs/benefits of better traceability (pesticide passport)
- Information to residents:
 - before spraying
 - access to records





CONCLUSIONS

- Protection human and animal health and environment
- Dual system, with improved harmonisation
- Clear deadlines

