



Knowledge development on spray drift deposition and the effect on non-target plants

Theme: Risk assessment procedures for pesticide registration

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Problem

Risk methodologies are to be developed, validated, reviewed or improved for the protection goal: non-target plants. Improved estimates of spray drift deposition onto non-target plants and the effects on the plants are necessary to be evaluated for authorization of safe use.

Approach

Knowledge development is needed to better understand the relation between short range spray drift deposition, the effect relations on and the protection of non-target plants in the evaluation zone next to the field. Important elements are:

- Effect of the place and size of the non-target evaluation zone on spray drift deposition level at that evaluation zone
- Effect of spray application and crop situations on spray drift deposition at the evaluation zone
- Inventory of effect relations on non-target plants at the evaluation zone
- Inventory of the potential development of higher tier pesticide registration procedures for non-target plants



Results

- Importance is shown variable sized and placed non-target evaluation zones next to the field effect the spray drift deposition
- Sub lethal effects of herbicides on terrestrial non-crop plant species are quantified

Future use in risk assessment

- Results can be directly used for the development of a higher tier approach for non-target terrestrial plants in the registration procedure for pesticides

Communication 2008

- Results are communicated at international conferences, in scientific articles and reports (May, Porto; July, Glasgow; WUR PRI report 149)
- Discussions on the subject are being held with Ctgb and in SETAC working groups. A national working group for this subject is in discussion

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