

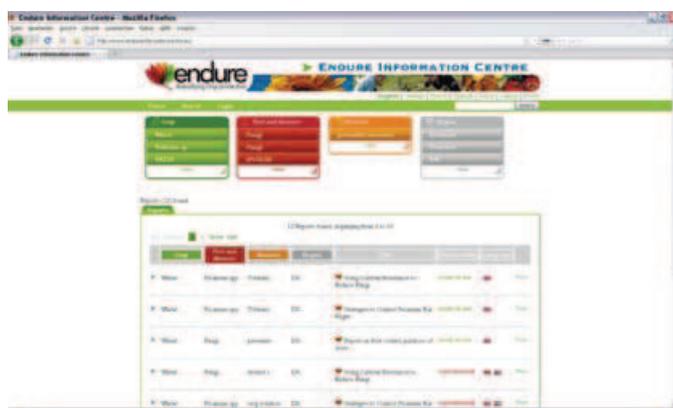
ENDURE INFORMATION CENTRE LINKING EUROPEAN RESEARCHERS AND ADVISERS

The ENDURE Information Centre is an online web-application which aims at disseminating knowledge on IPM and non-chemical alternatives towards advisers. Developed by scientists with the support of advisers, it enables interactive searches of crop protection measures by crop, pest and region. The system is available at <http://www.endureinformationcentre.eu>.

Search in ENDURE IC

ENDURE IC database contains up to 1000 national documents, reviews and links about IPM and non chemical alternatives of several European Countries. The application provides an interactive tool which enables multilingual searches in a database. The search can be done by combinations of crop, pests, diseases, measure and region or by a free text search system.

After the search, the title of an English abstract and a one line summary are displayed in an overview result list whereupon the user can select the detailed view. The detailed view contains the English summary based on the national documents and the original documents or sources if available.



Development of the system

The development of ENDURE Information Centre (ENDURE IC) followed a prototyping approach, based on the joint collaboration of advisers with researchers. First, to identify the needs a quick scan was conducted among the target end users, i.e. advisory organisations. Researchers and representatives of advisers involved in ENDURE used the results of the questionnaire to build a first version of the application. Special attention was paid to the layout, to make the interface intuitive and easy-to-use. Information needs and functionalities were then discussed with advisers during test sessions organised in Germany, United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Spain and The Netherlands and during 2 international agricultural events (Euro Potato, 2008 in France and Cereals 2009 in United Kingdom). Discussions provided feedback to improve the application.

Quality selection

The aim of the ENDURE IC is to present a European quality selection of sources and documents about integrated and non-chemical control measures in plant protection. All presented measures are aimed to result in less reliance on pesticides. The majority is ready to use in practice. This means that the information is scientifically sound, but also that the measures were tested in the field, and cost-effective. Other results (experimental) inform users about measures which can provide a solution for a given problem but cannot be recommended as best practice: they have been tested in experimental fields, but adoption is only possible under specific conditions.

Knowledge for this quality selection is generated from various national sources as well as inside the ENDURE Network. Sources can be research reports, journal and magazine articles, "grey literature" such as trial reports, websites, leaflets, reports, videos, articles, newsletters etc. The selected sources have the potential to be shared across Europe and provide information and has been judged by members of the ENDURE network.

Even if only ENDURE members have uploaded documents until now; external experts are invited to contribute to the ENDURE IC. A manual is developed to explain the selection criteria for the content, to guide the upload and a harmonised presentation of content.

Endure Network of Advisers

To stimulate a successful dissemination of IPM with ENDURE IC the involvement and commitment of advisers is a key factor. The ENDURE Network of Advisers gathers advisers from different European countries, linked by their interests in different areas of crop protection. It is a unique space for communication and knowledge exchange among advisers from Europe, which is challenging considering that there is no such tradition and that advisory systems differ greatly among countries. The members of the ENDURE Network of Advisers get informed by electronic newsletters about the application and new content and are encouraged to provide feedback, share information and contacts.

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