

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Updating the opinions related to the revision of Annexes II and III to Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market – Physical and Chemical Properties.¹

Scientific opinion of the Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR)

(Question No EFSA-Q-2009-00619)

Adopted on 18 June 2009

SUMMARY

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) asked its Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues to review the Opinions of the PPR Panel issued in 2006 and 2007 related to the revision of Annexes II and III to Council Directive 91/414/EEC (data requirements) concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market.

The present opinion is an update to the existing opinion on Annex II and III – Physical and Chemical Properties (EFSA, 2006).

The PPR Panel considers that there are no relevant new scientific findings, test guidelines or guidance documents in the field of identity, physical chemical properties and further information collectively called “physical and chemical properties” that presently merit an update of the previous opinion. Consequently an in-depth review is neither needed nor is it feasible considering the short timeline given for the mandate.

In this context the PPR Panel refers to the planned revision of the “Manual on development and use of FAO and WHO specifications for pesticides”. The data requirements for describing the identity and physical and chemical properties of pesticide active ingredients and preparations in Annex II and III refer to this Manual. The new version is expected to be available in 2010 and will have bearing on the corresponding chapters in Annex II and III, respectively.

Furthermore, the new framework regulation on pesticides may have an impact on data requirements concerning physical and chemical properties.

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The PPR Panel notes that the present data requirements on Physical and Chemical Properties would not underpin a risk assessment on nanopesticides, if such products would be developed and submitted for registration. A specific mandate to cover nanopesticides as well as nanoformulations would be appropriate, but this would be a resource intensive task.

The PPR Panel emphasises that the recommendations in its previous opinion still stand.

Key words: annexes II and III, data requirements, Directive 91/414/EEC, plant protection products, pesticides, physical and chemical properties