

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 13/14 December 2016

(Agreed on 3rd January 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Ryszard Laskowski (Chair), Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Peter Craig (via web-conference on the 13th only), Michael Klein, Aldrik Tiktak, Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky, Barbara Manachini and Paulo Sousa

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Robert Smith.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting held on 28-29 September 2016

The minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting held on 28-29 September 2016 were agreed by written procedure on 19th October.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. Comments received from the PPR Panel on the Scientific Opinion

The WG discussed the comments received from the Panel on the Scientific Opinion which was proposed for adoption in the following plenary meeting. The Opinion was amended accordingly, where relevant.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

If the Scientific Opinion is adopted, no other meeting will be held.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 12th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held in Lisbon on 28/29 September 2016

(Agreed on 19th October 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Laskowski Ryszard (Chair), Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Peter Craig, Michael Klein, Aaldrik Tiktak, Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky and Paulo Sousa.

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Robert Smith and Barbara Manachini.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting held on 15-17 June 2016

The minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting held on 15-17 June 2016 were agreed by written procedure on 27th June.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultation/efsa-q-2011-00978)).

5.1. Comments received during the public consultation on the draft Scientific Opinion

The WG discussed some of the comments, not yet addressed, received on the draft Scientific Opinion during the public consultation. Comments were discussed and addressed. The draft Scientific Opinion will be modified accordingly.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The technical report on the outcome of the public consultation will be published together with the Scientific Opinion by April, 2017.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in December, 13-14.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 11th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 15/17 June 2016

(Agreed on 27th June 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Laskowski Ryszard, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini (16-17, only), Peter Craig, Michael Klein, Aaldrik Tiktak (15-16, only), Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky and Paulo Sousa

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting held on 14-15 April 2016

The minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting held on 14-15 April 2016 were agreed by written procedure on 17th May.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. Comments received during the public consultation on the draft Scientific Opinion

The WG discussed the comments received on the draft Scientific Opinion during the public consultation. Comments were discussed and addressed, when possible. The draft Scientific Opinion will be modified accordingly.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The technical report on the outcome of the public consultation will be published together with the Scientific Opinion by April, 2017.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in September, 28-29.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 14/15 April 2016

(Agreed on 17th May 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Laskowski Ryszard, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Peter Craig, Michael Klein, Aaldrik Tiktak, Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky and Paulo Sousa

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific

Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 3-4 March 2016

The minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 3-4 March 2016 were agreed by written procedure on 22th March.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. Comments on the draft Scientific Opinion before endorsement

The WG discussed the comments received on the draft Scientific Opinion by the PPR Panel. Comments were addressed and the draft Opinion was modified, if needed, in order to submit to the Panel the update draft Opinion and proceed with the endorsement by written procedure.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The public consultation on the draft Scientific Opinion has been launched in May, the 3rd. The public consultation will run for 5 weeks.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in June, 15-17.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencpolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 3/4 March 2016

(Agreed on 22nd March 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Ryszard Laskowski (Chair), Robert Smith (via webconference), Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Peter Craig (via webconference), Michael Klein, Aldrik Tiktak, Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky and Paulo Sousa

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 7-8 January 2016

The minutes of the 8th Working Group meeting held on 7-8 January 2016 were agreed by written procedure on 18th January.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. General Framework and calibration

The WG discussed the chapter and how to proceed to finalise it. In particular the calibration of lower tiers was discussed.

5.2. Routes of exposure and Ecotoxicologically Relevant Concentration (ERC)

The routes of exposure and the ERC were discussed and the experts agreed on how to proceed for finalising that section of the Opinion.

5.3. Specific Protection Goals

The experts discussed the chapter in order to finalise it.

5.4. Effects Assessment Chapter

The experts discussed the conclusion which can be drawn from the chapter and options for possible refinements of the risk, when needed.

5.5. Exposure Assessment Chapter

The experts went through the chapter in order to discuss comments and finalise it.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The workplan was analysed, discussed and agreed. The deadline for finalising the Opinion has been postponed to April 2017. The Opinion will be presented for endorsement to the Panel in April.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in April, 14-15.

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 7/8 January 2016

(Agreed on 18th January 2016)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Ryszard Laskowski (Chair), Robert Smith (via webconference from 9 am to 13), Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Peter Craig (only 7th until 13 and on 8th via webconference from 9 am to 10:30 am), Michael Klein, Aldrik Tiktak

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Ingvar Sundh, Klaus Swarowsky and Paulo Sousa.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with some changes in the sequence of the items.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 4-6 November 2015.

The minutes of the of the 7th Working Group meeting held on 4-6 November 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 18th November.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. General Framework

The WG discussed the chapter and how to proceed to finalise it.

5.2. Routes of exposure and Ecotoxicologically Relevant Concentration (ERC)

The routes of exposure and the ERC were discussed and the experts agreed on how to better present them.

5.3. Specific Protection Goals

The experts discussed the chapter and what is needed to complete it.

5.4. Effects Assessment Chapter

The experts discussed some points which required further clarification.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencypolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The workplan was analysed, discussed and agreed.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in March, 3-4.

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 4/6 November 2015

(Agreed on 18th November 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Ryszard Laskowski, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh, Peter Craig (only 4th from 9 to 11 am), Michael Klein, Aldrik Tiktak

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri (only 4th)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 6th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 September 2015.

The minutes of the of the 6th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 September 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 6th October.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](https://efsa.europa.eu/en/efsa-qa/qa-00978)).

5.1. Actions

The WG discussed the list of items which are still missing in each chapter for completing the draft Opinion.

5.2. Specific Protection Goals

The experts discussed the chapter and what is needed to complete it.

5.3. Effects Assessment Chapter

The experts discussed some points which required further clarification.

5.4. General Framework

Tasks were reallocated for drafting the chapter.

5.5. Exposure Assessment Chapter

The draft of the chapter was discussed and some comments on it addressed.

6. Any Other Business

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencpolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wgntainsoil.pdf>

6.1. Workplan

The workplan was analysed, discussed and agreed.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in January, 7-8.

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 22-23 September 2015

(Agreed on 6th October 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Ryszard Laskowski, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Christopher Topping (only 22nd from 9 to 13 am), Barbara Manachini (only 23rd), Ingvar Sundh, Peter Craig (only 22nd), Michael Klein, Aaldrik Tiktak (from 2 pm on 22nd)

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with changes in the sequence of the items.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 June 2015.

The minutes of the 5th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 June 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 6th July.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/doc/2697/efsa-q-2011-00978)).

5.1. Effects Assessment

The draft of the chapter was discussed. Tasks were identified and distributed among the experts.

5.2. General Framework

The experts discussed the final outline of the chapter.

5.3. Additional Issues

Additional issues on the risk assessment of in soil organisms were identified and discussed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

Due to the complexity of the soil risk assessment and the time constraints, the workplan was analysed, discussed and agreed.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will hold a teleconference in October, 26th, if needed.

The Working Group will meet in November, 4-6.

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wqntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 22-23 June 2015

(Agreed on 6th July 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Ryszard Laskowski, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh, Peter Craig, Michael Klein, Ton Van der Linden, Patrick Kabouw (23rd from 9 to 12 am)

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 28-29 May 2015.

The minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 28-29 May 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 12th June.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/consultations/efsa-q-2011-00978)).

5.1. General Framework

The outline of the chapter on the general framework was discussed and agreed.

5.2. Effects Assessment

The draft of the chapter on effects assessment was discussed.

5.3. ECPA projects

Raw data from the four different projects have been provided by ECPA for the WG. Following the presentation, it was noted that the design of the multigeneration study with *Collembola* sp. confounded different factors, which prevented unambiguous interpretation of the results.

An additional recent project plan on novel methodologies aiming at directly measuring ecosystem services was also presented. This stimulated much interesting discussion, including: (i) whether the EU regulations specify protection of the key drivers or of the services and what should be measured; (ii) how measurement error affects the choice of the most precise measure (i.e. whether to use a direct measure subject to measurement error or to use an indirect measure that can be estimated more precisely). The WG recognised the relevance and novelty of this direct approach, although the project is at too early a stage to be included in the Opinion.

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wqntainsoil.pdf>

The WG is grateful to ECPA for sharing and discussing their data in this area.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

Due to the complexity of the soil risk assessment and the time constraints, the workplan was analysed, discussed and agreed.

7. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in September, 22-23.

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 28-29 May 2015

(Agreed on 12th June 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Ryszard Laskowski, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh, Michael Klein (29th) and Peter Craig (29th)

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Aaldrik Tiktak, Ton van der Linden and Christopher Topping.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting (webconference) held on 20 May 2015.

The minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting (webconference) held on 20 May 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 1st June.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](https://efsa.europa.eu/en/efsa-qa/qa-00978)).

5.1. Specific Protection Goals

The specific protection goals were further discussed and the text will be amended as agreed.

5.2. Effects Assessment

The first draft of the chapter on effects assessments has been discussed and outline of the chapter was agreed.

5.3. Exposure Assessment

An outline of the exposure assessment was discussed and agreed by the WG.

5.4. Uncertainty Analysis

The experts started to list the main sources of uncertainty in the risk assessment of in soil risk assessment.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The workplan was discussed, tasks were allocated and deadline established.

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wqntainsoil.pdf>

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Parma in June, 22-23.

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 3rd meeting (webconference) of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 20 May 2015

(Agreed on 1st June 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith (Chair), Aaldrik Tiktak, Ryszard Laskowski, Ton van der Linden, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh, Michael Klein and Peter Craig

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 24-25 March 2015.

The minutes of the of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 24-25 March 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 14th April.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](https://efsa.europa.eu/en/consultations/00978)).

5.1. Exposure routes for soil organisms

The exposure routes for in soil organisms were discussed and agreed.

5.2. Specific Protection Goals

Different Options of Specific Protection goals for different combination of ecosystem services/key drivers of in soil organisms were discussed and agreed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Workplan

The workplan was discussed, tasks were allocated and deadline for providing contribution were set.

7. Next meeting

28-29 May 2015

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wqntainsoil.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 24/25 March 2015

(Agreed on 14th April 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith, Aaldrik Tiktak, Ryszard Laskowski, Ton van der Linden, Paulo Sousa (webconference), Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh (24th, only)

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Michael Klein.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted with some changes in the sequence of the different items.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 19-20 January 2015.

The minutes of the of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 19-20 January 2015 were agreed by written procedure on 2nd February.³

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

5.1. Specific Protection Goals

Specific Protection goals for in soil organisms were discussed. According to EFSA PPR Opinion (2010), ecosystem services driven by soil organisms were identified. Key drivers for each ecosystem services and the main routes of exposure for each of the key driver were discussed.

5.2. General Framework

A first outline of the chapter on the general framework was presented and discussed.

5.3. Literature search for soil organisms routes of exposure

A literature search was re-run to update the search conducted for the Opinion of the EFSA PPR Panel 'The usefulness of total concentrations and pore water concentrations of pesticides in soil as metrics for the assessment of ecotoxicological effect'. Further tasks on this topic were identified and distributed.

5.4. ECPA projects

A proposal of the European Crop Protection Association (ECPA) to provide soil ecotoxicological data was further discussed by the

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

³ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/wqntainsoil.pdf>

Working Group. Access to raw data inherent to different projects will be asked. After assessing the submitted information, EFSA and the Working Group will further consider the need for a meeting with an ECPA representative to be invited as hearing expert

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Nomination of Rapporteurs

Rapporteurs for the Opinion were designated.

7. Next meeting

20 May 2015 (webconference)

28-29 May 2015

Scientific Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on Non Target arthropods and In-soil Risk Assessment (Opinion on In-soil Risk Assessment)

Held on 19/20 January 2015

(Agreed on 2nd February 2015)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Robert Smith, Aaldrik Tiktak, Ryszard Laskowski, Ton van der Linden, Michael Klein, Paulo Sousa, Frank de Jong, Silvia Pieper, Klaus Swarowsky, Peter Craig, Christopher Topping, Barbara Manachini, Ingvar Sundh

- **EFSA:**

Pesticides Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri, Csaba Szentes

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

4.1. Scientific Opinion addressing the state of the science on in-soil risk assessment ([EFSA-Q-2011-00978](#)).

4.2. Mandate and timelines

EFSA presented the mandate and the timelines for the development of the Opinion on the risk assessment of in soil organisms. According to the mandate, the Opinion should be issued by June 2016. A public consultation is foreseen on the draft opinion to be launched in the 4th quarter of 2015.

4.3. Working methods and conventions

The chair of the working group presented a document on good practice, conventions and working methods the Working Group should follow.

4.4. Background documents

The background documents available for the development of the Opinion were presented and discussed. Among those documents, there was the Terrestrial guidance of SANCO (2002), the outcome of the public consultation which was launched on the SANCO Guidance in 2008 by EFSA; the Opinions of the PPR Panel: (i) The usefulness of total concentrations and pore water concentrations of pesticides in soil as metrics for the assessment of ecotoxicological effects' and (ii) Scientific Opinion on the science behind the guidance for scenario selection and scenario parameterisation for predicting environmental concentrations of plant protection products in soil.

A letter sent to EFSA by ECPA was also discussed under this point. The letter is a proposal for information sharing and information exchange of soil ecotoxicological data for the revision of the terrestrial guidance document. The WG discussed projects ECPA is working on and agreed that after a preliminary evaluation of the published data, a hearing expert from ECPA might be invited to one of the next meetings.

4.5. Structure of the Opinion

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

The structure of the Opinion was discussed and the main chapter agreed

4.6. Specific Protection Goals (SPGs)

The working group started to work on different options for specific protection goals. Responsibilities and deadlines for contributions were agreed.

5. Any Other Business

5.1. Develop a workplan and agree on next meeting dates

Future meeting dates were agreed.

5.2. Miscellaneous

The experts were informed about a joint workshop ECHA-EFSA on soil risk assessment which will be held in Helsinki in October.

6. Next meeting

The Working Group will meet in March, 24-25.