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SUSTAINABLE PLANT PROTECTION ASSESSING ALTERNATIVES TO CHEMICAL PLANT PROTECTION

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REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Regulation (EU) 1107/2009

Requires a high protection of humans and the environment.

Article 53

"...in special circumstances a Member State may authorise, for a period not exceeding 120 days, the placing on the market of plant protection products for limited and controlled use, where such a measure appears necessary because of a danger which cannot be controlled by any other reasonable means."



EFSA DEROGATION EVALUATION PROTOCOLS

Protocols for the evaluation of data concerning the necessity of the application of active substances to control a serious danger to plant health which cannot be contained by other available means, including non-chemical methods:

Herbicides (2016)

Fungicides (2017)

Insecticides (2017)

Protocol for Insecticides applied:

[2018](#) and [2021](#)

Emergency authorisations of neonicotinoids as seed treatment in sugar beet.



EFSA DEROGATION EVALUATION PROTOCOLS

Principles:

The substance is necessary to control a serious danger to plant health that cannot be contained by any other available means.

Assessment of:

1. Availability of other pesticides and the risk of resistance development
2. Non-chemical pesticide alternatives available and the effectiveness/usage/feasibility of these alternatives

A derogation is not justified if other pesticides are available with low risk of resistance development or effective non-pesticide alternatives can be applied.



MANDATE AND OBJECTIVES

Mandate received from the **EU Commission**:

Develop fit-for-purpose protocols to assess emergency authorisations granted under Article 53 in light of the objectives put forward in the Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies.

- a protocol for insecticides and acaricides by May 2025
- a protocol on fungicides and bactericides by March 2026
- and a protocol on the remaining functions of active substances by January 2027



PARTNERING

Preparatory work

- **Data collection on alternatives to pesticides use**

Protocol development

Public consultation

Training and case study development



PARTNERING

Details to be developed further in consultation with the Commission

-e.g. Availability of “reasonable” alternatives

-e.g. Assessment of invertebrates as plant protection agents

Approximate timelines:

Grant to be launched in spring

Evaluation of offers and setting up contract in summer

Timelines need to comply with the DL set by the Commission



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