



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR) 126th Plenary meeting



19/20 June 2024
14:00–18:00/9:00–12:00
MINUTES - Agreed on 10th July 2024

Location: Physical meeting and online

Attendees:

- Panel Members: Pauline Adriaanse, Annette Aldrich, Philippe Berny, Tamara Coja, Sabine Duquesne, Andreas Focks, Antonio Hernandez-Jerez (chair), Marina Marinovich, Maurice Millet, Olavi Pelkonen, Silvia Pieper, Aaldrik Tiktak, Anneli Widenfalk, Martin Wilks, Gerrit Wolterink

- Hearing Experts: Not applicable

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives: Not applicable

- EFSA:

PREV UNIT: Marco Binaglia, Arianna Chiusolo, Anna Lanzoni, Jochem Louisse, Iris Mangas, Monica Nepal, Martina Panzarea, Manuela Tiramani, Giorgia Vianello

PLANTS Unit: Maria Arena, Domenica Auteri, Gabriella Fait, Roberto Lava, Vincenzo Padricello, Agnès Rortais

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies received from 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 Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 125th PPR Plenary held on 18 April 2024, via web-conference

The minutes of the 125th PPR Plenary were agreed via written procedure on May, 3rd 2024.

5. On-going activities of the Scientific Committee

The Panel was informed on the on-going activities of the Scientific Committee (SC). The following activities were presented:

- Draft guidance on epidemiological studies;
- Biomarkers of effect (BoE);

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



- Draft opinion Fluoride;
- Draft guidance on read across in food safety assessment;
- Draft guidance on risk-benefit assessment (RBA);
- Draft opinion on Bromide.

The Panel was also informed on the project on the Architecture of EFSA's Guidance, the possible future self-task guidance mandates of the SC and on the EFSA Guidance documents that have been identified as requiring an update in the near future.

6. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

6.1. Draft opinion on Use and reporting historical control data (HCD) for regulatory studies ([EFSA-Q-2021-00274](#))

The Panel was informed on the main outcome of the public consultation, i.e., number of comments and main feedback. Planning was also presented. The deadline was postponed to June 2025, in order to finalise the Opinion considering outcomes from testing the methodology with pesticides data by a competent national authority through two outsourcing projects.

6.2. Draft opinion concerning the basic substances chitosan and chitosan hydrochloride ([EFSA-Q-2024-00037](#))

The Panel was informed on the progress of the Working Group in addressing the terms of reference. Planning and dates of future meetings were also presented.

7. Update on new mandates

7.1. SANTE request for revision of terrestrial Ecotoxicology Guidance

The Panel was updated on the upcoming mandates for (i) the revision of the existing SANCO Guidance on terrestrial ecotoxicology and (ii) for a methodology to assess indirect effects on biodiversity via trophic interactions under agro-environmental conditions. In view of this mandate, a call for expression of interest was launched to establish a pool of experts in the field.

7.2. Waiving the dog studies in the regulatory process for agrochemical approval ([EFSA-Q-2024-00199](#))

The Panel was updated on the self-task mandate on the developmental activity on the waiving of dog studies in the risk assessment of pesticides. The proposed Working Group composition and meetings calendar was presented.

7.3. Application of PBK modelling for the QIVIVE of DNT IVB data for pesticide active substances ([EFSA-Q-2024-00299](#))

The Panel was updated on the self-task mandate for an activity on the use of PBK modelling for quantitative interpretation of Developmental Neurotoxicity (DNT) In Vitro Testing Battery (IVB) data. The Panel chair appointed one of the EFSA staff as chair of the WG.



8. EFSA scientific report on Development of a DNT AOP using voltage gate sodium channel inhibition as a molecular initiating event ([EFSA-Q-2021-00443](#))

An overview of the project as well as comments to the draft Report received from reviewers (i.e., Tamara and Marina) and related replies were presented to the Panel. The Report was endorsed unanimously by the Panel.

9. AOB

The next plenary of the PPR Panel will be the inaugural plenary (2-3 July in Parma) with the new Panel for the mandate 2024-2029.