

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON Plant Protection Products and their Residues

130th Panel Plenary meeting



26 (14:00-17:30)-27 (9:30-13:00) February 2025

MINUTES - Agreed on 12 March 2025

Location: Parma and teleconference

Attendees:

- Panel Members:

Pauline Adriaanse, Tamara Coja, Judy Choi, Antonio Finizio, Maeva Giraud, Thomas Kuhl, Francesca Metruccio, Martin Paparella, Emily McVey, Silvia Pieper, Eugenio Scanziani, Ivana Teodorovic, Paul Van der Brink, Martin Wilks

- Hearing Experts¹:

RIVM: Harm Heusinkveld

- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Not applicable

- EFSA:

PREV Unit: Marco Binaglia, Maria Blazevic, Mathilde Colas, Anna Castoldi, Joao Filipe Cavalheiro, Arianna Chiusolo, Federica Crivellente, Monica Fittipaldi Broussarad, German Giner Santonja, Tommaso Giorgi, Annetta Grillo, Frederique Istace, Dimitra Kardassi, Anna Lanzoni, Iris Mangas, Tunde Molnar, Jochem Louise, Martina Panzarea, Juan Parra Morte, Rafaela Rodrigues De Jesus, Manuela Tiramani, Giorgia Vianello

PLANTS Unit: Maria Arena, , Becirovic Amarela, Clarissa Cantore, Mark Egsmose, Gabriella Fait, Alex Gobbi, Roberto Lava, Alessio Ippolito, Aude Kienzler, Alberto Linguadoca, Oriol Magrans Soria, Vincenzo Padricello, Rachel Sharp

MESE Unit: Laura Martino

- Others:

Not applicable

Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received for the current meeting.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

2. Declarations of Interest of Panel members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Panel Members. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process. At the beginning of the meeting, one expert declared to have been approached by the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) for a workshop on species sensitivity. The potential overlap of that interest with on-going activities will be screened. However, it was not considered a conflict related to the items in the agenda.

¹ As defined in Article 34 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>

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

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



3. Hearing Experts

A technical hearing was organised with Harm Heusinkveld, expert from the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), for informing the Panel on an ongoing project in the area of regulatory assessment of Parkinson's Disease.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 129th PPR Panel Plenary meeting held on 28 November 2024, via teleconference

The minutes of the 129th PPR Panel plenary meeting were agreed by written procedure on 12th December 2024.

5. Feedback from the Scientific Committee

The chair updated the Panel Members about the last meeting of the Scientific Committee. The following items were presented:

- EFSA activities
 - EFSA's guidance architecture
 - Social Sciences at EFSA
- Update on the ongoing work of the Scientific Committee in the following areas:
 - Compendium on botanicals database
 - Draft guidance on read-across
 - Particle risk assessment
 - Genotoxicity
 - BMD modelling
 - Biomarkers of effect
 - Default values
 - Margin of Exposure
 - Evidence Appraisal
 - Fluoride
- Work programme Scientific Committee 2026-2027

6. Scientific output(s) submitted for discussion

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

Main comments received by reviewers (Antonio Finizio, Emily McVey and Silvia Pieper) were presented as well as how they were addressed by the Working Group (WG). The draft statement was adopted unanimously. In addition, the stand-alone accompanying draft scientific report on "Chitin estimation in agricultural soils" was presented, including amendments made based on reviewers' comments. The draft report was endorsed unanimously by the Panel.



6.2 Reviewing the literature on the methodologies available to study the long-term toxic and/or carcinogenic effects of PPP, in particular those resulting from interactions between components mixed in these products ([EFSA-Q-2024-00432](#))

The Panel was informed on the comments received on the protocol developed as the first deliverable for this mandate. Next steps for finalisation of the statement, for possible adoption in April, were also presented.

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

The Panel was informed about the main discussion points held during the last WG meeting. Planning for finalisation of the opinion before its possible adoption in June 2025 was also presented. To this respect, reviewers (Francesca Metruccio, Martin Paparella and Ivana Teodorovic) were formally appointed by the chair.

6.4 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 progress made by the WG in addressing the Terms of Reference (ToRs) as well as on the planning for the development of the draft output for possible endorsement for public consultation foreseen in June 2025.

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

The Panel was updated about the main discussions held by the WG and on the planning of tasks, including the development of proof-of-concept case studies to test and/or validate the tiered assessment strategy.

6.6 Request for revision of Terrestrial Ecotoxicology Guidance ([EFSA-Q-2024-00463](#) and [EFSA-Q-2024-00464](#))

The Panel was updated on the progress made by the WG and on the planning for addressing the 2 mandates received from the European Commission. In particular, an EFSA scientific report on the strategy for setting Specific Protection Goals (SPGs) will be developed for possible Panel endorsement in April before the consultation with risk managers. The Panel was also informed that the WG is developing protocols for the 3 different guidance documents in the remit of the mandate. The draft protocols should be endorsed by the Panel in June.

6.7 Metabolites common to several active substances ([EFSA-Q-2024-00560](#))

The Panel was informed on the discussions held during the first WG meeting as well as on the launched consultation of Member States and Industry Task Force for data submission. Calendar meetings and tasks planning was also shared.

7. Other topics for information

7.1 FAIR principles for mechanistic effect models in ERA

The Panel was informed about the activities of the EFSA WG on effect models in Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) for the development of a statement on the application of FAIR principles, for possible endorsement by the PPR panel in April. To this



respect, reviewers (Emily McVey, Paul Van der Brink, Maeva Giraudo) were formally appointed by the chair.

7.2 SPARK RIVM project

The Panel was informed by the hearing expert Harm Heusinkveld about the background and the planning for the RIVM project on strategies for regulatory assessment of Parkinson's disease. The Panel member Emily McVey is also involved in such activity.

8. Checklist for Panel review

Feedback from recently appointed reviewers was presented and discussed for possible improvement of the checklist.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 29/30 April 2025 as web-conference.