



# Introduction to terminology, tiered approach and proposed procedures for existing models used in the new EFSA GD on protected crops

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## BACKGROUND

This guidance is intended in product registration for risk assessment of active substances of plant protection products (PPPs) and their transformation products (metabolites).

Guidance is provided for when the same methodology as for open field can be used and be considered representative/conservative

or

when special approaches are considered more appropriate.



## BACKGROUND

Although Greenhouses are defined in Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 as "*closed places of crops production which prevents release of plant protection products (PPPs) into the environment*" there are indications from research reports and other literature that emissions do occur.



## NOT COVERED

PPPs of biological nature, micro-organisms or microbial biological control agents (mBCAs) are also subject to this Guidance.

However:

- No specific exposure models for mBCAs are available
- The models proposed in this Guidance are not always capable of, or meant for, predicting fate and behavior of such products in the environment

***but***

Where approved methods for risk assessment of mBCAs exist for open-field applications

***and***

this guidance indicates that open-field methodology can be used for a specific application to a covered crop

***then***

that method may be used for the specific application as well

- Case-by-case basis
- Not further addressed



## NOT COVERED

### Closed buildings

Not considered having relevant exposure routes with regards to exposure to soil, ground- and surface water.  
FOCUS Air recommended for assessing exposure to air.

## DEFINITIONS

### Types of structures covered by the guidance

#### Low (mini) tunnel

a simple plastic cover generally associated with mulching. A temporary cover that is removed before harvest and often opened when applying PPPs.



## DEFINITIONS

### Types of structures covered by the guidance

#### Plastic shelter

Generally used for fruit crops, in order to protect them against cold or rain and to extend the harvest period. In some cases, the cover is discontinuous, that is the shelter is placed only above the crop row.



## DEFINITIONS

### Types of structures covered by the guidance

#### Net shelter

Used to protect vegetable or ornamental crops from excessive heat and/or light, wind, insects and birds; it may have the shape of a tunnel or small greenhouse, the only difference consisting of a permeable cover fabric.

#### Shade house

A shading net in the shape of a tunnel or small greenhouse; generally used for ornamental crops.



## DEFINITIONS

### Types of structures covered by the guidance

#### Walk-in tunnel

Unheated structure used for growing plants. Usually consists of a single layer of plastic supported by plastic or metal arches or hoops. These structures are large enough to walk in and work inside, and generally they are temporary, in that they or their coverings are generally removed at the end of cultivation.



## DEFINITIONS

### Types of structures covered by the guidance

#### Greenhouse

*"A walk-in, static, closed place for crop production with a translucent outer shell"* (Regulation (EC) 1107/2009)

Can be classified according to High-/Low tech, the geometry (e.g. single span or multi-span), material used for the frame (wood, aluminium, steel or a combination of them) and the shell (plastic, both rigid pans and films; glass).

Range in size from small sheds to very large buildings.





## INTRA VS INTERZONAL APPROACH

### Interzonal

Application in a Member State (MS) in one zone can apply for MS in other zones as well

### Intrazonal

Application in MS in one zone applies to other MS in the same zone only

## INTRA VS INTERZONAL APPROACH

A vertical decorative collage on the left side of the slide. It includes images of a cow, a tray of eggs, a landscape with a river, a close-up of purple grapes, and a basket of strawberries. There are also three dotted star icons.

An interzonal approach for mutual recognition is only appropriate for Greenhouses.

However, at this moment it is still not clear whether one scenario would be sufficient to cover all three zones.

For the other structures, intrazonal approach for mutual recognition of PPPs is appropriate



## TIERED APPROACH

- Open field risk assessment methodology is considered to cover protected crops.
- When a tiered approach is considered appropriate for open field situation, this may also be applied for these protected crops situation.
- For walk in tunnels and Greenhouses, open field approach may serve as a first tier