Efficient application equipment in good condition - a prerequisite in crop protection - an ECPA view

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For many reasons the Crop Protection Industry welcomes a European-wide mandatory inspection of sprayers.

Today’s crop protection products (CPPs) are efficient tools in a sustainable agriculture. High quality application equipment in good condition is an important part in the CPP management. No chain is stronger than its weakest link. Operator exposure, point sources, spray distribution – all are highly influenced by and dependent on the application equipment.

Good effect of a treatment with recommended doses requires an even distribution and deposit.

One trend in the development of new CPPs is more selectiveness. Another is fine-tuning in the mode of action. This will even increase the requirements on the spray application in the future.
Why?

- Optimum effect of treatment at recommended dose

Why?

- Distribution
- Spray quality
Minimum risk for negative side-effects and environmental pollution

Point sources
Examples: - Leakages
- Cleaning facilities
Why?

Find the problems before accidents occur

Why?

Diffuse sources

Examples: - Boom stability
- Spray quality
Some specific needs and aspects from the Crop Protection Industry

A prerequisite in sustainable use of Crop Protection Products (CPPs)
CPPs are more and more selective and more fine-tuned in the mode of action.
- Evenness in distribution
  and deposit
- Homogenous spray liquid

Complaints management
Reflections about mandatory systems

- Minimum requirements are excellent
- National adaptation also, but: "Don't overdo it"
Don’t require "complete new machines"

Try to combine the inspections with advisory/information
Try to strengthen the operators ownership and responsibility

Make the good tools in crop protection available for future growers