

Implementation status of mandatory inspection of sprayers in Romania

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Summary

To harmonize the Romanian legislation on plant protection to the European legislation the Directive 128/2009 has been transposed into national legislation by Government Emergency Ordinance 34/2012 on establishing the institutional framework for action to the sustainable use of pesticides in Romania.

National Action Plan approved by Decision 683/2013, on reducing the risks associated with the use of plant protection products is the strategic document regarding the continuous improvement of the use of plant protection products and contains quantitative targets, measures and timetables to reduce risks and the effects of using plant protection products on the environment and human health.

Introduction

The National Action Plan, developed on the basis of Article 4 of GEO 34/2012, is the basic document on continuous improvement in the use of plant protection products, and aims to: establish the institutional framework to achieve sustainable use of pesticides, reducing dependence on pesticide use, reduce the risk and effects associated with pesticide use and promotes integrated Pest Management.

Through NAP are developed and implemented the integrated pest management system, are encouraged the introduction of plant protection products containing active substances with low degree of hazard, the alternative techniques to reduce the use of plant protection products and optimization of control methods.

The current situation in Romania

The National Phytosanitary Agency through the County Phytosanitary Units was designated, by Order 1463/26.09.2014, as *Inspection Body* of the equipment for applying plant protection products for professional use. The Inspection Body has in its structure *Testing Centers* founded and organized at the compartment level into County Phytosanitary Units. Through the responsibilities of the Inspection Body - National Phytosanitary Agency- are the following:

- Initiation and implementation of laws, rules, procedures and instructions that governing the inspection of pesticide application equipment in Romania;
- Coordinate the organization and implementation of the system of inspection of equipment for pesticide application at national and local level;
- Providing, together with the General Food Industry Direction - Department of consulting, extension and training, the staff training from test centers and professional users;

- Ensuring development of the Official Register of machinery and equipment for pesticides application - their registration being prerequisite for inspection;
- Develop the control and monitoring plan for implementing optimal inspection system;
- Ensure developing of a database for recording specific information on implementation of inspection for plant protection equipment;
- Ensure developing of a website dedicated to inspection system of the equipment on MARD website;
- Organizing information and awareness campaigns about the requirements and benefits of pesticide application equipment inspection.

The *Testing Center* will be coordinated by an inspector, and will have the following responsibilities:

- Make assessment and certification of application equipment under a service contract between the equipment owner and the inspection body;
- Prepare the annual inspection report for the equipment tested;
- Register the information regarding the test results in a registry prepared at each test center;
- Issuing the certificate of inspection and an adhesive bead that will be applied on the equipment, and transmits them to the equipment owner;
- Managing the database on inspections to monitors the testing system at the local level;
- Establish guidelines for maintenance and use of application equipment;
- Ensure the confidentiality of information provided by the owners of equipment.

Conclusions

- The transposition of EU legislation at national level is completed;
- The responsible body for inspection of pesticide application equipment was designate;
- Were established the responsibilities of the Inspection Body (Order 1463. / 26.09.2014);
- There is no working testing center, yet.