

Authorisation of inspection facilities and workshops in North Rhine Westphalia

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In North Rhine Westphalia an act (Verordnung über die Anerkennung von Betrieben für die Kontrolle von Pflanzenschutzgeräten - 7823) is existing that rules the procedure of the approval of the workshops testing PAE's, the requirements to be fulfilled and the inspection through the responsible authority (chamber of agriculture).

The requirements to be fulfilled are:

- Industrial and professional company
- Exact and reliable testing of PAE
- Adequate testing staff with technical qualification
- Adequate testing facilities (mobile patternator, flow control unit, testing facilities for manometers, at least two measuring cylinders - all equipment following the BBA guideline 1 - 3.1.1.)

Each workshop has to bring his testing facilities every second year for a technical check up to the chamber of agriculture. During this check up the mobile patternator, the flow control and the manometer are checked by the authorities. If the requirements after BBA guideline 1-3.1.1. are fulfilled the testing equipment is labelled with a sticker that shows the duration of inspection validity. Additionally a document that shows the relevant measuring results is generated. If a workshop has no approved testing equipment he is not able to do the testing of PAE, because he will not receive the needed stickers for the sprayer testing from the authorities.

The workshops will be supervised by the chamber of agriculture during the testing season. The workshops has to communicate the testing calendar dates to the authorities. Inspectors will visit them during their testing period at least once. If there is a unsteadiness in sprayer testing or a improper testing facility the inspector can stop the testing immediately. If a workshop works not reliable the authority can deny the authorisation of the workshop.

Authorization of inspection facilities and workshops

The situation in Germany and its federal states
using the example of North Rhine Westphalia

- Local act is existing (implemented by the chamber of agriculture as responsible authority)
- Rules the procedure of the approval of the workshops testing PAE's
- Workshops will be inspected by the chamber of agriculture
- **Problem:** Not every federal state has an existing act, or the acts are not harmonized (⇒ some workshops are testing PAE's in different federal states or other countries – NL -)

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Authorization of inspection workshops

Example: Kverneland is accepted as an inspection workshop (although the workshop is situated in Nieuw Venneep, NL)

- A German agency (situated in Soest) is the official contact
- Inspections of the workshop at Nieuw Venneep (NL) through the chamber of agriculture are not as regular as they are in North Rhine Westphalia
- SKL is inspecting Nieuw Venneep on a regular basis (relevant documents will be submitted to the chamber of agriculture)

⇒ need of a harmonized and accepted guideline

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Demands on a workshop

- Industrial and professional company
- Exact and reliable testing of PAE's
- Adequate testing staff with technical qualification
- Adequate testing facilities (mobile patternator, flow control unit, testing facilities for manometers, at least two measuring cylinders - all equipment following the BBA guideline 1 - 3.1.1.)
- Equipment has to be tested every second year by the chamber of agriculture (responsible authorities)
- Adequate place (protected from wind)
- Workshop has to communicate the time period of testing (every year before they start testing)
- Workshops order the expected amount of testing protocols and stickers at the chamber of agriculture
- Every workshop will be visited during the testing period

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Authorisation of inspection facilities and workshops

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**Anerkannte
Kontrollstelle
für
Pflanzen-
schutzgeräte**

Plate for the workshop

Accepted
control station
for
plant protection
equipment

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Summary

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- There is a need of a harmonized system to be accepted in each member state
- The testing intervals (not only for the sprayer) needs to be the same (2 or 3 years)
- The documentation/sticker are a useful device to demonstrate the quality of the inspection workshop...
- ...and makes cross-border sprayer testing easier

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