

ISO 16122 : A harmonized standard for the inspection of sprayers in use

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After publishing the Directive for a sustainable use of pesticide, the European Commission asked to the CEN (European Committee for Standardization) for a revision of the standard 13790. The Directive describes some essential requirements which have to be translated into technical words and specifications.

In accordance with the Vienna agreement, ISO (International Standardization Organization) has been associated, in order to produce reference documents applicable in every country, even if not concerned by the European rules.

In parallel, it was necessary to deal with new sprayers in order to coordinate the requirements applicable on new / in used sprayers and make them consistent.

This work started in 2010. Then start a long procedure to elaborate proposals, acceptable by everyone. This new text should conciliate:

- The minimal requirements needed by the directive
- The requirements applicable on new sprayers
- The existing rules available in countries concerned by a mandatory inspection of sprayers

The feedback of more than 15 years' experience in some countries

Three international meetings, five drafts, two general votes, and more than 900 comments were needed in order to establish a final draft! It has been submitted to a vote during summer, agreed by more than 85% of the members.

The benefits of such standards are obvious, not only for complying the Directive requirements, but also for a minimal performance of sprayers and prevent serious defaults, and for a mutual recognition of inspections made all over Europe.