4 November 2014

Symposium “Feeding Europe with fewer pesticides”

9.00 – 13.00, European Parliament, Brussels

09.00 Welcome by Benedek Jávor, member of the European Parliament
09.05 Welcome by Michael Hamell Professor of Agriculture, University College Dublin
09.15 What is being done on pesticide related issues during the Italian Pestidency, Silvia Nicoli, agricultural expert from the Permanent Representation of Italy
09.20 Pesticides and retailers: the Euro Coop perspective and the Coop Denmark case study - Rosita Zilli (Euro Coop) and Malene Teller Blume (Coop Denmark)
09.35 Pesticide impacts and alternatives - A scientific perspective - Kirsten Thompson (Scientist, Greenpeace Research Laboratories)
09.45 Integrated pest management: the future is already here by Ilaria Pertot and Andrea Lucchi (vice presidents of IOBC-wprs)
10.00 A serious implementation of the EU Directive on Sustainable Use of Pesticides (SUDP), ways forward - Henriette Christensen and Vittorio Veronelli (PAN and IBMA)
10.15 Break
10.30 Success stories about farmers reducing pesticide use
   • Mauro Varner, Cantine Mezzacorona (Viticulture advisor)
   • August Jost (Maize grower from Austria)
   • Felix Wäckers (Professor, Lancaster University, Director R&D Biobest)
   • Erich Stekovics (Vegetable grower from Austria)
   Questions and debate with David Baldock (IEEP), Noa Simon (Utrecht University), Pavel Poc (MEP) and Marco Zullo (MEP)
11.40 Ways forward to reduce pesticide use in the EU
   • What is European Commission SANCO doing to implement the SUDP by Ladislav Miko (European Commission, DG Sanco)
   • How can the Common Agricultural Policy, especially the Farm Advisory Service, help implementation of SUDP by Joost Korte (European Commission, DG Agri)
   Panel discussions with David Baldock (IEEP), Michael Hamell (University College Dublin), Pavel Poc (MEP) and Nicola Caputo (MEP)
12.50 Conclusion by Michael Hamell
13.00 End of symposium
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Who are we? An innovative partnership consisting of:

**IOBC-wprs** is an International Organisation of progressive European researchers and other knowledgeable people investigating the use of sustainable, environmentally safe, economically feasible, socially acceptable control methods of pests and diseases of agricultural crops. Therefore IOBC-wprs encourages collaboration in the development and promotion of Biological and Integrated Pest Management. IOBC-wprs fosters research and practical application, training and information exchange, especially of all methods including biological control as part of integrated pest management. IOBC-wprs produces guidelines for integrated production of agricultural crops, collaborates with different stakeholders to develop sustainable agricultural production systems and standardises methods of testing effects of pesticides on beneficial species, with the aim to foster biodiversity and ecological services as a natural resource.

**IBMA** is the association of biocontrol industries producing solutions: microorganisms, macroorganisms, semi-synthetic and natural products for plant protection. Based on long years of intensive research and development, the “Biocontrol industry” is now growing fast and can offer safe and cost-effective solutions to the entire food chain. IBMA was created in 1995 to represent the views of the developing biological control manufacturers, which are mainly SME’s with limited resources, research organisations, extension services, consultants, distributors, contributing to the development of biocontrol and participating in IBMA activities.

**PAN Europe** is an NGO working to minimise negative effects and replace the use of hazardous chemicals with ecologically sound alternatives. Our network brings together public health, and environmental organisations and women’s groups from across 19 European countries. We work to eliminate dependency on chemical pesticides and to support safe sustainable pest control methods.

**Greenpeace** is an independent campaigning organisation that acts to change attitudes and behaviour, to protect the environment and to promote peace. We value our independence and do not accept donations from governments, the EU, businesses or political parties. Greenpeace European Unit is part of the international Greenpeace network with over 40 offices and about three million supporters. We monitor the work of the EU, expose deficient policies and challenge decision-makers to implement progressive solutions.