

# EFSA's activities in the field of environmental fate of Plant Protection Products (PPPs)

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## Introduction

EFSA's Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues (PPR Panel) provides independent scientific advice on the risk assessment of plant protection products (PPPs) and their residues, assessing the risks for the user/worker, the consumer and the environment. With its opinions and Guidance Documents (GDs) the PPR Panel provides advice and guidance for risk assessors and risk managers. The PPR Panel is responsible for revising existing and developing new GDs for risk assessment under Council Directive 91/414/EEC.

Currently, nine GDs are under development or under revision. This poster gives an overview of the revision process and development of new GDs in the field of environmental fate of PPPs. During the general consultation of Member States (MS) by EFSA in July 2006, a number of MS have expressed interest in a revision of the current GD on persistence in soil and in the development of a new GD on emissions of PPPs from protected crops.

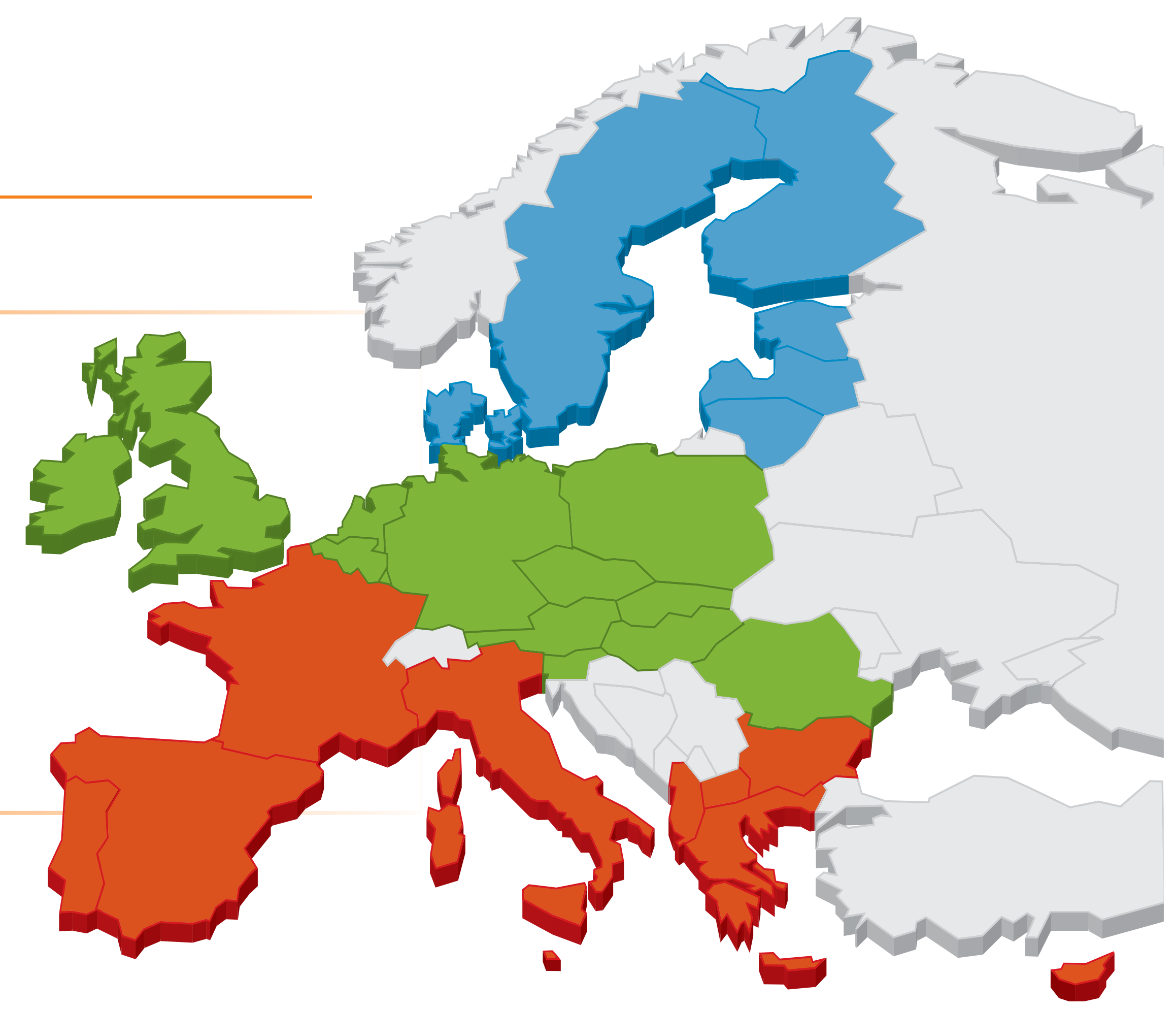
## Revision of the Guidance Document on Persistence in Soil

The aim of the revision is to develop a tiered approach for exposure assessment of pesticides in soil at EU level including:

1. The development of a range of scenarios representing realistic worst-case conditions including as far as possible ecological, soil, and climatic considerations.
2. The appropriate definition of the role of results of field persistence and soil accumulation studies in the tiered assessment.

**Figure 1:** Zones for the authorisation of plant protection products

■ North  
■ Center  
■ South



## Development of a new Guidance Document on Emissions of PPPs from Protected Crops



Protected crop systems (e.g. greenhouses and cultivations grown under cover) are referred to in Directive 91/414/EEC, regulating the placing on the market of plant protection products. However, there is currently no definition that demarcates the emission of a protected crop application from the emission of a field application. Nevertheless, several active ingredients have been listed in Annex I to the Directive with reference to use in greenhouses.

A designated working group of the PPR Panel is currently developing an inventory of covered crop systems in order to create a classification system. Based on the structure of the systems, the potential emission routes and their relevance can be identified, considering emissions to air, water, soil, and sewage treatment plants. Both topics will be covered in the GD.

## Involvement of Stakeholders in the Process

EFSA involves its stakeholders in the process of revising and developing new GDs. Public consultations on the project plan and draft output are held as well as stakeholder workshops are organised to collect stakeholders' views and discuss with them. Related documents can be found on the EFSA webpage in the section "scientific documents":

### Documents for the revision of the GD on Persistence in Soil:

**Report on the outcome of the public consultation:**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902588125.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902588125.htm)

**Report on the outcome of the stakeholder workshop IRIS (Improved Realism in Soil Risk Assessment):**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902706552.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902706552.htm)

### Documents for the development of a new GD on Emissions from Protected Crops:

**Report on the outcome of the public consultation:**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902588223.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902588223.htm)

**Information on the stakeholder workshop PROTEA to be held in Parma, 17-19 Nov 2009:**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902525164.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902525164.htm)

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