Round Table

Framework Directive on the Sustainable Use of PesticidesEuropean Commission

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The Framework Directive on the sustainable use of pesticides aims to achieve a more sustainable use of pesticides by reducing the risks from the use of pesticides on human health and the environment, and by promoting the use of Integrated Pest Management and of alternative approaches such as non-chemical alternatives.

Member States will have to establish National Action Plans in which they set targets, measures and timetables in order to reduce risks from the use of pesticides and to define timetables and targets for use reduction. Professional users, advisers and distributors must have access to appropriate training. Pesticide application equipment used by professionals will have to be regularly inspected to check compliance of the equipment with requirements of the Directive. Aerial spraying will be banned, however Member States may grant derogations under strict conditions in cases and areas where there are no viable alternatives. Measures to improve the protection of the aquatic environment and drinking water will be taken: giving preference to products which are not dangerous for the aquatic environment and to low drift equipment and establishing buffer strips along water courses. The use of pesticides will be prohibited or minimised in specific areas, which are areas used by the general public and sensitive populations. Safe conditions for the storage, handling and waste of pesticides have to be established. Member States will have to promote low-pesticide input techniques for pest management. Integrated pest management is a sustainable approach for pest management which relies on preventive measures, observation and pest monitoring and targeted interventions using techniques with the lowest impact on the environment and human health. The general principles of IPM listed in the Directive become mandatory for all professional pesticides users as of 2014. Risk indicators will monitor progress made and check whether the objective of risk reduction is reached.



































