

"Post Annex I Re-registration Procedure" workshop

AIPROM and ECPA (European Crop Protection Association) organized on the 3rd of July the "Post Annex I Re-registration Procedure" workshop. The event was attended by members of the National Registration Commission of Plant Protection Products as well as from the Secretariat of the Commission, experts trained in the evaluation of dossiers from the institutions part of the registration process and representatives from AIPROM member companies.

The re-registration of plant protection products that contain active substances included on Annex I of Directive 91/414/CE is a very important issue that concerns the plant protection industry, as this process ensures the re-evaluation of all products registered in Romania after the new criteria imposed by Directive 91/414/CE for the inclusion on Annex I. This very complex procedure assumes a strong and intense communication between the industry and the authorities for a coherent and without syncope implementation of the new European legislation on plant protection product registration, the workshop on 3rd of July being part of this communication process.

Editorial

2007 will remain in our memory and history as the year of Romania's integration into the European Union, as a full member state and with responsibilities that come out from this. Even since its being set up, AIPROM has been focused on promoting the transposition and implementation in Romania of the European legislation in the field of crop protection through co-operation with the Romanian authorities and the support by ECPA (European Crop Protection Association) experts. An important goal that has been met by involving professional and personal resources and that has given us great satisfactions, continuously filling us with enthusiasm for further challenges.

For us, as a dynamic industry that carries out its activity in a competing and strongly regulated environment, these challenges have not been late in coming out. Thus, we have intensified the dialog with the authorities in crop protection field, and especially in the field of pesticides registration, and with those from the environment protection, in order to present the position of the industry towards the new drafts of legal documents meant to complete the national and European legal framework, but also for the presentation and identification of ways of cooperation in projects that the Association is to start this year. Also, the number of pan-European actions coordinated by ECPA has increased significantly, within which the Association is involved, and we expect that it will have an ascending trend further on. In its endeavor of backing the position of the Romanian crop protection industry, AIPROM has an extremely useful dialog with Romania's representatives in the European institutions, in charge with promoting Romania's interests. Through all these actions, the Association supports crop protection industry in implementing, developing, enforcing and promoting innovative technologies in Romania, and it stands for promoting the interests of the Romanian agriculture.

Therefore, by reading the third AIPROM Newsletter you will get familiar with our activity in the first half of 2007, as well as with near future plans.

Mihaela Dogaru - Executive Manager

AIPROM Meetings with Romania's Representatives in Brussels



AIPROM

Member of European Crop Protection Association

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of the Romanian Crop Protection Industry Association

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New Members of AIPROM

Since March 19, June 18, 2007 respectively, AIPROM – Romanian Crop Protection Industry Association, has two new members: Nufarm and Alchimex, companies that have the status of associate members.

Founded in 2002, AIPROM has currently 15 members:

8 full members:

- BASF
- Bayer
- Chemtura Netherlands
- Dow AgroSciences
- Du Pont
- Makhteshim Agan
- Monsanto
- Syngenta Agro

and 7 associate members:

- Alchimex
- Chemark Rom
- Chemical Independent Group
- Glissando
- Nufarm
- Redoxim
- Summit Agro

Since March 2007, S.C. Ecochem S.A. is no longer a member of AIPROM.

"Triple Rinse the Packaging!" Campaign

Citeste! Citeste! Citeste!

CLATITI DE 3 ORI AMBALAJUL
DUPA FOLCAREA PRODUSULUI DE PROTECTIA PLANTELOR!

In acest fel:
- validati test produsul cumparat
- reduceti pericolul pentru sanatate si mediu
- incalziti

Citeste de trei ori ambalajul dupa golire in conformitate cu procedura descrisa mai jos.

Pasi de urmat:

1. Umpleti cu apa 1/3, ten sterili din ambalajul gol
2. Inversati capacul si agitati ambalajul de cinci ori
3. Goliti apa de clătire in rezervorul cu valvula si meară de trăsut
4. Repetati aceeași operațiune de încă două ori
5. Acumulați de fiecare dată apa de clătire în rezervorul cu valvula și meară de trăsut

AIPROM ROMANIA - ASOCIATIA ROMANA DE PROTECTIA INDUSTRIEI DE PROTECTIA PLANTELOR

Citeste! Citeste! Citeste!

"Triple Rinse the Packaging!" Campaign

Starting this year, AIPROM has launched a campaign of promoting the activity of repeated rinse of packaging of plant protection products, also known as pesticides, as part of the project of organizing the collection scheme of pesticides packaging waste the Association wishes to start by the end of this year.

Why?

The campaign intends to popularize among the farmers the benefits of this simple and effective European procedure of decontaminating the empty packaging of plant protection products. The main benefits of rinsing three times after use the packaging of plant protection products are the use of the entire content of the purchased product and reducing the risk for human health and the environment. Thus decontaminated, the packaging might be declassified from hazardous waste class, as it is currently according to the legislation in force, and classified as non hazardous waste. This change of classification shall submit the transportation of plant protection products packaging to less strict norms, facilitating the process of collecting and recycling them at national level. The procedure of triple rinsing the plant protection products packaging has been applied by the EU member states farmers for many years and represents normal practice of farmers regarding the sustainable use of pesticides.

Where?

The campaign is currently being run at national level, on several information channels meant to properly inform as many farmers as possible. In disseminating information, an important role is played by direct meetings of AIPROM member companies with the farmers, during symposiums and demonstrations in the field, as well as the involvement of the phytosanitary units in the territory and other departments within the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment. At the same time, there has been distributed through sales representatives and by mail the self-sticking promotional poster (photo), worked out for explaining the rinsing procedure and intended for being displayed in specific warehouses and stores. The farmers are encouraged to stick these posters on the tanks of their spraying equipment in order to remind those preparing the solutions for phytosanitary treatments to rinse the packaging after emptying it. The campaign will continue by informing thorough the media, but also by intensifying meetings of AIPROM member companies representatives with the farmers.

NOTE:

To all farmers that wish to promote this procedure of rinsing the empty pesticides packaging, the self-sticking posters describing the steps of the rinsing procedure can be sent upon request, free of charge by AIPROM.

Clățiți! **Clățiți!** **Clățiți!**

**CLĂȚIȚI DE 3 ORI AMBALAJUL
DUPĂ FOLOSIREA PRODUSULUI DE PROTECȚIA PLANTELOR!**

În acest fel:

- valorificați tot produsul cumpărat
- reduceți pericolul pentru sănătate și mediul înconjurător

Clățiți de trei ori ambalajul după golire în conformitate cu procedura descrisă mai jos.

PAȘI DE URMAT

1. Umpleți cu apă $\frac{1}{4}$ (un sfert) din ambalajul gol
2. Înșurubați capacul și agitați ambalajul de câteva ori
3. Goliți apa de clătire în rezervorul cu soluție al mașinii de tratat
4. Repetați aceeași operațiune de încă două ori
5. Aruncați de fiecare dată apa de clătire în rezervorul cu soluție al mașinii de tratat




Clățiți! **Clățiți!** **Clățiți!**

photo: Sticker-Poster

HOW DO WE RINSE?

- 1 fill in with water a quarter of the empty packaging
- 2 screw up the lid and shake the packaging several times
- 3 empty the rinsing water in the reservoir with the solution of the treatment equipment
- 4 again repeat this operation twice
- 5 each time empty the rinsing water in the reservoir of the spraying equipment containing the spraying solution.

BEWARE!

When handling and using the products do not forget to take all working safety measures mentioned on the label of the respective product.

DO NOT FORGET!

When preparing the spraying solution for the phytosanitary treatment, after using the plant protection product, rinse three times the empty packaging, following the steps mentioned above. The rinsing water must be emptied only in the reservoir with spraying solution.

Workshop on "Classification of Post Agrochemical Primary Packaging "

Bucharest, May 29, 2007
AAIPROM and ECPA - European Crop Protection Association organized, Tuesday, May 29, 2007, at Ibis- Parliament Palace Hotel, Eliade Hall, a workshop on "Classification of Post Agrochemical Primary Packaging ".

The event was attended by members of the National Working Group for waste legislation, including representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Division of Soil, Subsoil and Waste Management, and also authorities within the National Agency for Environment Protection, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Division for Material Recycling, representatives of the European Affairs Department within the Government, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administrative Reform, General Division of General Interest Services and Partnership with Local Elected Associations.

The main topic of the seminar was pesticide

packaging waste management, presentation of this issue approach in other EU member states, focused on their classification and importance of classification in organizing and implementing collection and incineration/capitalization national schemes.

Two ECPA experts, Dr. Detlef Döhnert-BASF, chairman of ECPA Transport and Packaging Experts Group (PTEG), and Mr. Ross Dyer, consultant with "Dyer Consultants" had been invited to make presentations.

These presentations focused on the following matters:

- strategy adopted by ECPA member companies on packaging management;

- outcomes of the international survey coordinated by ECPA and focused on finding out pesticides residues left in the packaging material after using the products and their triple rinsing;

- EU legislation on packaging waste classification and its implementation in different member states and collection schemes.

During the seminar, Mr. Andrei Vior - Bayer CropScience presented the

actions undertaken by AIPROM in the field of packaging waste management, and also the project that is to be implemented by the industry on working out a packaging waste scheme.

The experts emphasized that the support by environmental national authorities was essential for the success of any initiative regarding the packaging waste collection and that it was important also for the legislative framework to back in such projects. The main obstacle in organizing pesticide packaging waste collection scheme was raised by their classification as hazardous waste resulting in very tough transport requirements. In order to find a solution for this problem, by using the similar examples of other member states, the industry and authorities have to identify the legal possibilities to change the classification of pesticides packaging waste decontaminated by triple rinsing, from hazardous waste to non-hazardous category.



photo: AIPROM

ECPA Seminar on "Classification and Collection of Post Agrochemical Primary Packaging"

Bucharest, March 12 and 13, 2007
ECPA - European Crop Protection Association organized in Bucharest, Hotel Novotel, the meeting of ECPA Packaging and Transport Expert Group (PTEG) - on March 12, 2007 and the seminar on « Classification and Collection of Primary Packages from Agro-Chemical Products » - on March 13, 2007.

Members of PTEG-ECPA and directors of the 30 national associations of plant protection industry, members of ECPA, attended this seminar, organized with the

logistic support provided by AIPROM.

The main objective of the seminar was to inform the industry about the actions undertaken by ECPA for harmonizing the classification of primary agrochemical packaging waste across EU, the presentation of operating collection schemes in some member states and information about the progress made in organizing such schemes in the new member states, such as Romania.

The seminar represented a good opportunity for exchange of experience

between the representatives of associations having expertise in managing and collecting pesticide packaging waste and representatives of associations that were just starting their activity in this field.

For AIPROM representatives, the seminar was a good opportunity to discuss with packaging waste management experts, the collection scheme project the association intended to start by the end of 2007 and the identification of key-aspects for securing the success of this initiative.

Debates on revising the Directive 91/414/EEC are in full progress

May 8-9, 2007, Brussels. AIPROM attended the „Plant Protection Products and Future of the Mediterranean Agriculture” event, organized by ECPA - the European Crop Protection Association, at the headquarters of the European Parliament. The event was attended by European parliamentarians, members of the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development and of Committee for the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety of the European Parliament, ECPA experts and representatives of the 30 national associations’ members of ECPA.

The event aimed to presenting the impact of the new legal documents proposed by the European Commission on the Thematic Strategy, the Framework Directive on Sustainable Use of Pesticides and the proposal for the Regulation on revising Directive 91/414 on European agriculture in general and particularly the Mediterranean one. During the meeting, the discussions on the provisions to ban some active substances, considered unsafe in the view of the new regulation proposals had an important share. In ECPA experts’ opinion, these legal changes can affect the entire agriculture in the region, generating the risk of not having viable alternative technologies for combating pests.

The current framework of European licensing (Directive 91/414/EEC) allows the plant protection products to play a key role in the sustainable agriculture in

Europe, setting up, at the same time, very high standards for the public health and the environment. Authorization of a plant protection product on the European Union market involves carrying out more than 250 specific tests on the impact of product upon the environment and health. Such tests last, on average, 9 years and cost about 200 million euros. Directive

91/414/EEC is currently revised, being at present debated upon in the European Parliament. This revision introduces in the proposal for Regulation some welcome changes welcome in the EU authorization process but, in certain fields, the proposed solutions have a negative impact upon the crop protection industry and agriculture, and they can still be improved.



photo: European Parliament, Bruxelles, Belgium

AIPROM Meetings with Romania's Representatives in Brussels

Being present in Brussels on May 8-9, 2007, the AIPROM delegation composed of Mr. Gheorghe Botoman - President, Mrs. Ioana Crăciun - Vice-president and Mrs. Mihaela Dogaru – Executive Manager, attended meetings with Romania's representatives in the European Parliament and officials of the Permanent Delegation of Romania to the European Union.

During all similar meetings so far, AIPROM has introduced and supported the position of industry in Romania towards some provisions in the legal documents under discussion in the Council and the European Parliament. In this respect, extremely useful was the meeting with Mr. Radu Podgoreanu, member of the Commission for Agriculture and Rural Development in the European Parliament, who welcomed the initiative to contact Romania's representatives and to inform about the impact the new legal drafts have on industry and agriculture in Romania. Mr. Radu Podgoreanu expressed his opinion on such consultations, considering that the actions undertaken by the Association in informing,

sending materials and industry position documents are really useful and of great help for Romania's representatives, contributing to formulating a comprehensive and correct point of view to support it afterwards in the Committees of the European Parliament.

The AIPROM delegation met the councillors Achim Irimescu - Head of Department and Alexandru Marchis – 3rd secretary with the Department of Agriculture, Fishery and Rural Development of the Permanent Delegation of Romania to the European Union. During the discussions, the AIPROM representatives presented the crop protection industry position in Romania, a position that is consistent with crop protection industry across Europe towards some provisions of legal drafts under discussion at the Council and European Parliament level (Thematic Strategy, Framework Directive on Sustainable Use of Pesticides and the Proposal for the Regulation to revise Directive 91/414), as well as towards the implementation in Romania of the European legislation regarding the registration of plant protection products.

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