

AIM: Advancing Intelligent Mitigation –

An ECPA workshop on managing potential diffuse contamination sources of plant protection products

Developments in the CAP Health check, combined with changes in aquatic risk assessment under **Council Directive 91/414/EEC**, the implementation of the **Water Framework Directive** and the development of the **Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive** are driving the need to establish practical improvements in the environmental performance of agriculture. These improvements should include mitigation measures that are effective and can be integrated into regulatory decision-making and/or cost-efficient agri-environment support schemes to farmers and growers, to meet the broader objectives of EU Rural Development Policy.

ECPA is initiating a project to engage and involve stakeholders in identifying and agreeing the best ways of implementing practical mitigation over:

- The use of spray drift reduction technology
- Vegetative buffer strips and associated agronomic practices

To achieve this we are seeking to propose the development of appropriate risk mitigation measures, when and where needed. These mitigation measures need to satisfy the needs of all stakeholders:

- Farmers and Growers
- Regulatory Authorities
- Water Resource Managers
- Crop Protection Industry

As a first step, we will be holding this workshop to provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to:

- listen to experts in the field of the effectiveness of vegetative buffer strips and spray drift reduction technology;
- Exchange ideas with ECPA for establishing, demonstrating and disseminating best management practices in co-operation with other stakeholders and
- Input their ideas on the need for action, the specific proposals and their implementation in workshop-style discussions.

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22 October 2008 (8:30-15:30)

Hotel Silken Berlaymont, Brussels

Agenda (DRAFT 23 June 2008)

- 0830 **Registration**
- 0900 **Introduction to AIM project** Richard Allen (ECPA)
- 0915 **Understanding the key drivers for effective mitigation of run-off with vegetative buffer strips**
Prof. Garey Fox (Oklahoma State University)
- 0945 **Practical conditions for buffer zone implementation at watershed scale**
Jean-Joel Gril, (CEMAGREF)
- 1015 **Implementing drift reduction technology into risk assessment and practical advice for farmers and growers**
(to be confirmed)
- 1045 **Coffee break and start of discussion groups - each with a focus on runoff mitigation or drift reduction**
- 1300 *Lunch* (with posters and SDRT video)
- 1400 **Feedback from discussion groups, summary and wrap-up**
- 1530 **Adjournment**