

Conference

SPECIALITY CROPS AND MINOR USES



Monday 7th November 2011

Copa-Cogeca
Rue de Trèves, 61 - 1040 Brussels



Aim of the Conference

Regulation 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, recognises the importance of the availability of plant protection products for minor uses in Europe and states that *“In order to ensure that diversification of agriculture and horticulture is not jeopardised by the lack of availability of plant protection products, specific rules should be established for minor uses.”*¹ The Regulation also requires that the Commission present a report by December 2011, looking at the establishment of a European fund for minor uses.

8 agri-food chain organisations² organised a conference on speciality crops and minor uses in 2009, which was complemented by a common position paper and common conference conclusions. The conference, where the European Commission, Member States authorities and agri-food chain associations discussed the future of speciality crops and minor uses, was a first step to raise awareness on this issue.

The aim of the 2011 Conference is to consider the progress made by the Commission and their consultants in evaluation the minor use problem and in considering the options to find suitable solutions for speciality crops and minor uses. Progressing the discussions of 2009, the 2011 Conference will look at solutions found outside the EU (in particular with the IR-4 programme) as well as the work being done in EU Member States – at national level and in cooperation between Member States.

Finally, the Conference will look to draw common conclusions for consideration by both the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. The final aim is to support speciality crops and minor uses, ensuring that suitable crop protection solutions are available to maintain the viability of European production of speciality crops that contribute to the availability of high quality healthy and affordable products for all consumers.

¹ From paragraph 30 of the preamble to Regulation 1107/2009

² AREFLH, CELCAA, COCERAL, COPA-COGECA, ECPA, ESA, FRESHFEL, PROFEL

PROGRAMME

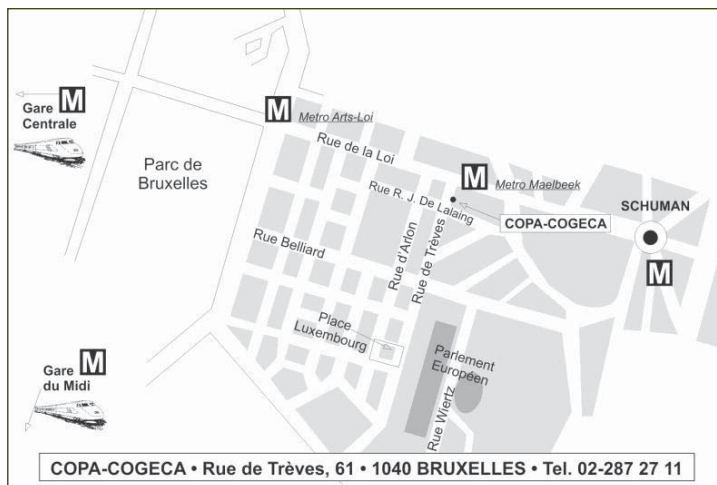
Chairman: Susanne SÜTTERLIN – Ministry of agriculture (The Netherlands)

- 14.30 Introduction and agri-food chain view - **Luc PEETERS, COPA-COGECA**
- 14.45 Keynote speech: Commission view - **Ladislav MIKO, Deputy Director General DG SANCO - European Commission**
- 15.00 The view of the Polish Presidency - **Marcin BIELINSKI-BILINSKI, Polish Permanent Representation**
- 15.15 Conclusions of the Commission's study on the establishment of a EU fund for minor uses - **Daniel TRAON, Economic and policy consultant in agriculture**
- 15.35 Views from the North and South minor use groups - **Johan ROMAN and Jean-Claude MALET**
- 16.05 Coffee break
- 16.20 Update on US developments - **Jerry BARON, Executive Director IR-4 (USA)**
- 16.50 Panel discussion with **Ladislav MIKO, Marcin BIELINSKI-BILINSKI, Jerry BARON and Luc PEETERS (agri-food chain representative) – input from the audience**
- 17.40 Conclusions - **Susanne SÜTTERLIN, Ministry of agriculture (The Netherlands)**
- 17.50 Final remarks - **Pilar AYUSO, Member of the European Parliament (Group of the European People's Party)**
- 18.00 Cocktail reception



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- Interpretation will be provided in English, Italian, French, Spanish, Polish and German.
- Conference location:
Copa-Cogeca,
Rue de Trèves 61,
1040 Brussels



- For registration
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EVENT ORGANISATION

The event has been organised with the support of the following associations

