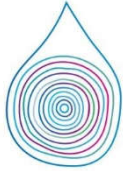




Water Quality and Agriculture - a water industry perspective

Eric Chauveheid, VIVAQUA, Belgium
Claudia Castell-Exner, DVGW, Germany
TOPPS meeting, 22 September 2017



EurEau

Overview

- ~ EurEau: vision of water services
- ~ Water and Agriculture
- ~ TOPPS tools set
- ~ Way forward





Who is EurEau ?

EurEau

the voice of
Europe's
Water sector
since 1975

Our

members
are from
29 European
countries

We

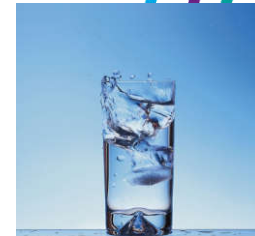
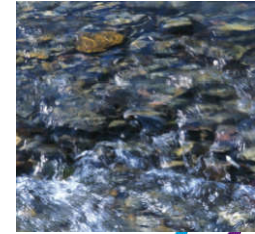
represent
Public/private
Drinking/waste
water services

Employing

542,000
people

Our vision

- ~ ***Keep treatment as simple as possible and end-of-pipe treatment should remain the last option***
- ~ Therefore, water suppliers must have ***access to adequate and long term reliable resources***
- ~ But, once released into the environment chemical substances may ***occur sooner or later in the water resources***
- ~ Therefore, groundwater and surface water must be well ***protected***



Water and Agriculture

- ~ The intensive use of substances such as nitrate and **pesticides** is requiring increasingly treatment of water resources to comply with the standards set by the Drinking Water Directive
 - ~ For groundwater, pollution can stay for decades after use of chemicals
 - ~ For surface water, pollution can be intense after use of chemicals



Water and Agriculture: Regulation

- ~ Art. 7 (3) Water Framework Directive
 - ~ “[..] *avoiding deterioration in their quality to reduce the level of purification treatment [..]*”
- ~ **has been overlooked by MS**
- ~ **lack of measures taken to protect efficiently drinking water resources**

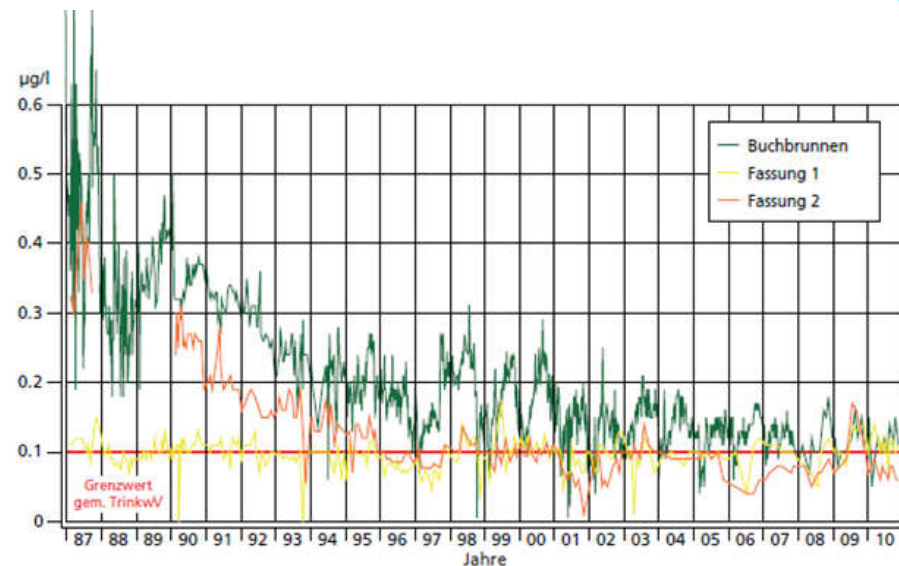
EurEau is disappointed !!

Water and Agriculture: Regulation

- ~ Art. 4.3 Regulation 1107/2009
 - ~ 'A plant protection product [...] shall have *no immediate or delayed harmful effect on human health* [...] directly or through drinking water'
 - ~ **Guidance document how to test behaviour of pesticides in treatment process is still lacking**
- ~ Art. 44 (1) Regulation 1107/2009
 - ~ 'A Member State shall review an authorisation where it concludes that the objectives of [...] of the WFD may not be achieved'
 - ~ **No transparency whether Member States follow this route**

Water and Agriculture: on the field

- ~ Pesticide pollution has declined over 30 years
 - ~ Removal of old problematic compounds
 - ~ Lower amounts used on field
 - ~ Reduced environmental persistence
 - ~ Improved pesticide management practices



Water and Agriculture: on the field

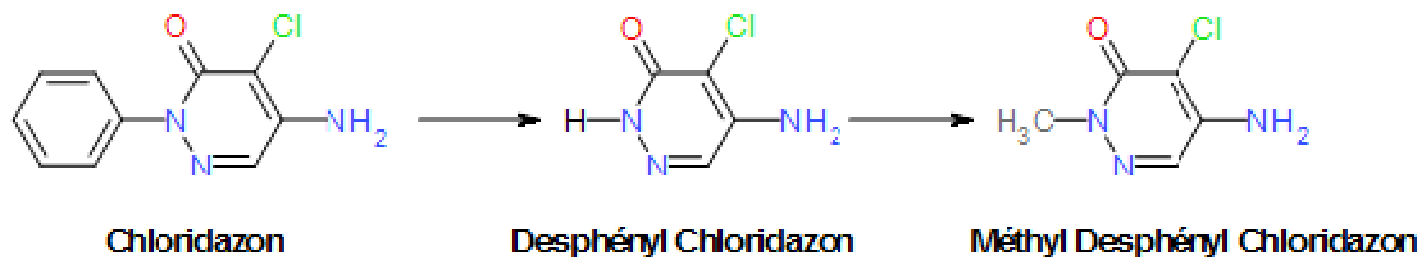
~ But

~ Protected areas are mostly too small

~ Some pesticides are highly soluble

~ e.g. : Glyphosate

~ Metabolites are identified in water resources



~ Various approaches how to deal with non-relevant metabolites in Member States

EurEau's proposal on „blueing measures (CAP)



1. Plant nutrition and fertilization
2. Land utilisation and cultivation
- 3. Plant protection (pest management)**
4. Water management
5. Organisation and management

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF WATER SERVICES



Revision of Common Agricultural Policy – CAP after 2013

Greening of the 1st pillar (direct payments)
“Blueing measures” to protect drinking water resources

14/03/2013

Plant protection

- ~ We support all initiatives related to :
 - ~ Specialized training and advice on spray preparation, application and maintenance, especially in protected areas
 - ~ Certification and knowledge testing of professional operators
 - ~ Provide full information on pesticides application
 - ~ Use of spray drift reduction technology (SDRT)
 - ~ Designation of multi-functional field margin buffer zones

Plant protection

- ~ We support all initiatives related to :
 - ~ Training on integrated Pest Management programs
 - ~ Allocation of pesticide container take back and recycling schemes
 - ~ Installation of bio-beds/on-farm water management
 - ~ Security of any area dedicated to preparation and processing of pesticides
 - ~ Reduction of use of substances of particular concern

Cooperation EurEau – ECPA since 1st TOPPS project in 2005



...to prevent pesticide losses to water

HOME ABOUT POINT SOURCES SPRAY DRIFT RUNOFF & EROSION REMNANT MANAGEMENT EOS SPRAYER MORE...

*** The TOPPS - Life project was selected among the best 10 Life projects!***

TOPPS Life project



The TOPPS –Life project concentrated to reduce losses of Plant Protection Products (PPP) to water. The project was funded by EU through the Life program and the ECPA (European Crop Protection Association). The project started November 2005 and ended October 2008. It was designed as a multi stakeholder project and included 15 EU member states, 12 local partners and 9 subcontractors, which executed the project.

What was done?

1. Status analysis

Review if and which recommendations to reduce point sources already existed in countries .

- in favor to continue collaboration

Current field for cooperation EurEau-ECPA: implement TOPPS tools on catchment level



***Demonstration
Catchment Proposal***



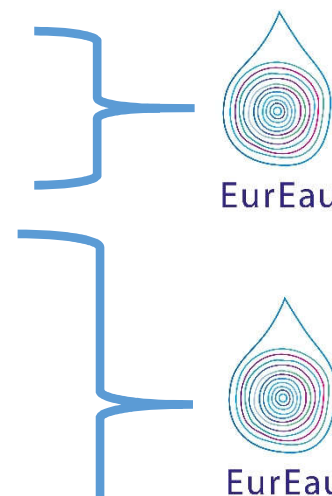
„Making a difference for water protection in agriculture“

Request from ECPA: 02/2017



TOPPS 2018+ Catchment Activities

- TOPPS 2018+ Proposal: Demonstrate effective water protection in ≥ 2 EU catchments - technically & economically
- TOPPS is now looking for catchment partners, which
 - work in a defined, manageable catchment
 - have a high-quality pesticide water monitoring in place (active ingredients, time intervals)
 - are already advising farmers on best practices
 - "Perfect" partner: Drinking water provider (surface water)
- TOPPS is ready to co-invest in
 - initial trainings, catchment diagnosis, and infrastructure (e.g. washing places, improved sprayers, etc.)
 - yearly management and (limited) BMP subsidy costs





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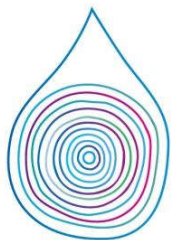
Way forward

~ EurEau is ready to discuss any collaboration and initiative, and to contribute to it



Thank you for your attention

Eric Chauveheid & Claudia Castell-Exner



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