



IBMA - International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association Press Release

IBMA White Paper - A New EU Regulatory Framework for Bioprotection Agents: IBMA Vision on how to improve regulation in the European Union

Tuesday 23rd October Basel/Brussels, David Cary, the Executive Director of IBMA, presents today in ABIM – Annual Biocontrol Industry Meeting in Basel, the unrivalled meeting place for the biocontrol industry, *IBMA White Paper - A New EU Regulatory Framework for Bioprotection Agents: IBMA Vision on how to improve regulation in the European Union.*

As presented by David Cary: “Bioprotection technologies provide effective and innovative plant protection for modern agriculture. This makes them a vital tool in the EU’s work to support farmers and effectively implement the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD, Directive 128/2009/EC).”

However, the current lack of a specialist bioprotection regulatory body, legislation, procedure and data requirements means that the EU is not fully reaping the benefits of this rapidly growing, predominately SME-based, industry.

IBMA therefore propose that by the end of 2020 the EU establishes a bioprotection-specific body that has developed and implemented a short and precise timeline for the evaluation process, with evidence-based procedures and tailored data requirements. Risk-based evaluations should be conducted using high-level scientific expertise and in close communication with applicants.

Willem Ravensberg, IBMA President declared: “This new approach would benefit human health, the environment, biodiversity and the bio-based circular economy and, therefore, society as a whole.”

In fact, IBMA foresees a centralised procedure under the direction of this regulatory body with the participation from member States experts, and this should be operational by 2021. As a result of this the farmers will get more sustainable tools to grow healthy and productive crops within an Integrated Pest Management programme in which biocontrol and ecosystem services provide resilient food production with a minimum impact on the environment and human health.

To read IBMA White Paper, please [visit our website](#).

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