Pesticide use reduction out of agriculture in Belgium

State of the art in 2015

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Pesticide competency in Belgium is shared by four authorities:

- **One Federal Authority**
  - PPP authorisation
  - Public health

- **Three Regional Authorities**
  - Agriculture
  - Environment

Coordinated by the NAPAN task Force.
Pesticide use reduction in perspective

1984  Wallonia: First decree concerning PPP prohibition in public areas
1991  Brussels regio: first Ordinance related to the use of pesticides
1995  Flanders: First reduction programme for PPP - Objectives: no more pesticides in the cities by 2014 and 50% reduction of aquatic risk
1998  Belgium: Law Products Norms: a permanent pesticide reduction plan is mandatory
2005  Belgium: first federal reduction programme for PPP and biocides
2009  European Union: Dir 2009/128; Reg 1107/2009
2012  Belgium: transposition of dir 2009/128 for the federal & 3 regional authorities
2013  Belgium national action plan (a federal and three regional parts) with a programme for five years
PPP use is managed at the product level

• Authorisation with specific mitigation measures for each product

• Two markets from 2015:
  • The professional market (about 97% in 2010) accessible only with a Phytolicence (about 70,000 certificates delivered in 2015).
  • The non-professional market with specific products (small packaging, smart labels, compatible with min. PPE, specific exposure assessment, ...)

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Pesticide risk management is specific to economical sectors

• **In agriculture** (about 80% of the use in 2010) risk is managed by **IPM** general and specific measures.

• **Out of agriculture** (about 900 tons a.s. in 2010) risk is managed by **prohibition** or **minimum uses schemes**
Out of agriculture: by prohibition or minimum uses (*)

* various implementation schemes among regions: transitional periods, definitions of concepts

- Prohibition on public domain (roads, parks, railways, cemeteries, etc.)
- Prohibition on areas connected to surface water
- Prohibition on nature: forests, special protection zones for nature
- Prohibition on water protection zones: water catchment areas, along any water course: 1 to 6 meters of buffer zone
- Minimum use or prohibition on areas accessible to vulnerable public (sport fields, schools, hospitals, etc.)
- Minimum use elsewhere supported by an intensive stewardship from regional authorities
For specific cases PPP use is allowed, but restricted, registered, and reported to the regional authority.

- **Automatically:**
  - In water catchment area (zones II & III) for framers (with good practices) and others under specific restrictions
  - To control invasive species (restricted to a positive list)
  - In case of emergency (human health protection, ...)
  - In case of harmful organism (restricted to a positive list)

- **After approval:**
  - In forest with a validated management plan
  - In nature protection zone with a validated management plan
  - Very specific situations (sport fields, etc.)