

Improving the availability of plant protection products for minor uses in horticulture and agriculture

Abstract

A joint project by the German Farmers' Association (DBV) and the German Horticultural Association (ZVG)

Project number: 2810MD005

The joint project 'minor uses' aimed to develop suitable and practical pathways to improve the availability of plant protection products (PPPs) for the many small crops in horticulture and agriculture, so-called 'minor uses'. The project was funded in part by BMEL via BLE.

In the sub-project 'Search' at the LWK North-Rhine-Westphalia, international and national databases on PPPs have been searched for minor use solutions available in other EU member states and worldwide. The solutions found were checked in cooperation with the license holder and an application for submission in Germany was prepared. Different application procedures have been evaluated, especially 'mutual recognition' of regular authorisations or of Art. 51 authorisations ('minor uses') according to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. To date, 103 out of the 172 applications submitted primarily for non-residue-relevant uses e.g. ornamentals have been approved in Germany.

In the sub-project 'communication and data transfer' at the DLR Rheinpfalz, different pathways were evaluated and established for the collaboration with the German minor uses groups for fruits, vegetables and herbs as well as with the European Commodity Expert Group (CEG) fruits and vegetables and national and international research institutions. For important minor uses in the EU, chemical and biological PPPs could be distinguished, which had not been approved in any EU member state for the specific use. In the European expert group, 27 CEG projects were managed to coordinate and conduct residue trials in several member states, and to provide all data required for the zonal application process for the selected PPPs.

With the accompanying project 'Research' at the Julius Kühn-Institute, efficacy trials with biological PPPs were coordinated.

Publications of the joint project are provided at <https://www.verbundvorhaben-lueckenindications.de>.

The joint project will continue with the established structures after the end of the funding phase.