

DRAFT

BRITISH CROP PRODUCTION COUNCIL

EXPERT WORKING GROUP – APPLICATION (EWG-A)

Minutes of the **100th meeting** held on **21st April 2010** at TAG, Silsoe

R Bateman (Chairman)
T Bals
H Dobson
C Butler Ellis
R Glass
P. Miller
T. Swan

100.1

The meeting followed on from the Defra-LINK project meeting: TB kindly agreed to take notes.

100.1.1 Apologies

Apologies for absence:
W Basford, G. Matthews, T Robinson, J. Tobutt

100.1.2 Minutes of the 99th meeting held on 17th September 2009 at TAG, Silsoe

These were posted on the [web-site](#) and accepted

100.2 Future of the EWG and Nozzle Classification system

Colleagues in HGCA have argued that the nozzle classification should be called the HGCA Scheme if only this organisation put more funding for research. TB and RB argued for maintaining BCPC name because of history, specificity of HGCA remit, and future discussions would be required. BCPC should not to take benefits of EWG for granted without putting anything in (royalty for testing to BCPC scheme with name?).

Points have been made to CRD – who say industry should fund (although recognise labels are poor – and just copied from previous ones). TB will re-approach CRD.

BCPC need to get chemical industry involvement on EWG-A (two companies have now appointed applications specialists).

HD to approach Keith Jones of Croplife with one page specification if needed (PM/CBE to draft).

100.3 Standards development

TB reported the main area of activity (and concern) being the development of harmonised European Standards (which will also become International Standards) to underpin EC regulation based on the revised EC Machinery Directive to allow sprayers to be placed on the European market – with Standards also being developed for inspection of equipment in use. Considerable work was required – and the danger was incomplete or over-prescriptive standards that could stifle innovation.

The other major issue for BCPC was the re-launching of the ISO project (ISO/TC 23/SC 6/WG 13 – under US leadership) on droplet size classification, with a three year timescale.

Other ISO/TC 23/SC 6 activities are:

- WG 5 - knapsack sprayer standard will be revised (German project leader) NB the UK has made various major technical comments (principally on the need to separate out tests for lever operated knapsacks and compression sprayers).
- WG 6 - sprayer cleaning is being reactivated NB France and Denmark have introduced legislation on sprayer cleaning that cannot be met in practice.
- WG 12 - crop deposit measurement. This was potentially dangerous since it essentially specified above crop patternation as a proxy for deposition.
- WG 15 - traceability is currently severely deficient but is proceeding.
- WG 16 - sprayer drift test bench is proceeding but the UK, US and France have asked for more test data.

100.4 Next meeting

Propose to hold Autumn meeting (with two new CPA members) in conjunction with the Crop World / BCPC Conference (2-3 November).