

**BRITISH CROP PRODUCTION COUNCIL
Expert Working Group – Application (EWG-A)**

Minutes of the **91st Meeting** held on **21st October 2005** at SRI, Silsoe, Beds.

91.1 EWG - PRESENT

R Bateman - Chairman	W Basford – Secretary
P Miller	C Butler- Ellis
R Glass	T Bals
R Makepeace	T Swan
G Matthews	R Hadway

91.1.1 Apologies

The following offered apologies:

T Robinson, W Taylor, J Tobbutt, J Fisher, H Dobson

91.1.2 Minutes of the last meeting

These were accepted.

91.1.3 Matters arising from the minutes

From **90.1.2** Invitation to D Inseal to join BCPC and EWG still unresolved due to internal business issues.

From **90.2.4** The chairman expressed disappointment with the EC Thematic Strategy position. He reported that a letter from BCPC had been sent with no response, now meaning further action from BCPC was too late. He suggested and it was agreed that when EN 12761 was raised for revision that BCPC could lead the UK voice in response. The development of the UK National spraying Strategy also influenced the possible response on the EC document. Members questioned the current protocol for BCPC responses and requested clarification from J Fisher as to EWG positions and functions within any response procedure.

The response of BCPC to the Bystander Report and the meeting rapidly scheduled for the Glasgow Conference suggested to some members that reasonable notification for responses had not been sought.

91.1.4 All other matters were covered by the agenda.

91.2 CURRENT ISSUES

91.2.1 ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT ON BYSTANDER EXPOSURE

The special Glasgow meeting at the BCPC Congress 2005 was summarised. EWG members had presented overviews on particular chapters of the report at the meeting. Reactions were that bystanders had now been developed into an all-inclusive term including every person

from local residents to others in both close proximity and distant locations. Domestic activities had not been included. This had implications for spray quality issues but vapour issues had not been particularly well covered. It was evident that some work referred to within the report was quite 'early' in spray nozzle and application research. Members agreed that UK research was, however, in advance of many other in the world.

It was agreed that when considering responses for either research or further collation of current work the BCPC nozzle classification system was recognised as a starting point. However it was agreed that there was no one publication or work area bringing all aspects together.

A BCPC Occ. Report No 3, Vapour Drift was indicated as useful. It was suggested that BCPC should consider bringing together some relevant work and that the forthcoming paper of R Bateman's for AAB would start to develop areas for consideration. It was agreed that perhaps a special meeting would be required to develop areas for future consideration.

91.2.2 FARM WASTE REGULATIONS

Further to 90.2.1 the secretary stated that the expected enactment of the Agricultural Waste Regulations had been delayed until February 2006. Further information can be found on www.environment-agency.gov.uk and following links through Agriculture and Regulations.

Detailed information on the future of burning plastic containers in the CPA drum incinerator is also given on the EA web site, it is expected that 12 months grace after the regulation enactment will be made on this route of container disposal.

The Waste session planned within the Glasgow conference would include a paper on the development of pesticide container recycling schemes.

91.2.3 KNAPSACK SPRAYER STANDARDS

It was reported that the current ISO standard had been re drafted and now existed as a Final draft. It was seen as perhaps as not as vigorous as the previous British standard. Some concern from G Matthews existed since lever and compression types were being considered together. He further reported that the BSI involvement is now being administered through AEA. He agreed that standards could be circulated throughout the group if required.

91.2.4 VI Progress

It was reported that the VI is expected to conclude March 2006. No precise details were available as to the future proposed.

91.3 BCPC SPRAY / NOZZLE CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

R Bateman reported that he had prepared a paper for the forthcoming AAB conference which reviewed Protocols such as BCPC and other nozzle classification approaches. He reminded members that the modified version of the E Southcombe's original paper can be

found on the web site, this can be found directly at
http://www.dropdata.net/bcpc_ewg/ESES_noz.pdf

Members discussed the many differences which existed within various protocols from different world wide schemes for nozzle classification and drift potential assessments. There was agreement that PSD should be made more aware that application issues represent a critical area of research. It was agreed that the concentration on flat fan nozzles should be extended to include all nozzle types, particularly AI nozzles. Three aspects of scheme development were highlighted:

- Identification of information
- Interrogation of information
- How this can be applied to nozzle selection

All agreed that BCPC should be lobbying for more research into application.

It was agreed that a meeting with other interested workers to consider this whole area could be held at the forthcoming AAB conference. R Bateman agreed to co-ordinate this.

91.3 BCPC PUBLICATIONS

W Basford confirmed that he was progressing with revision of the Hand Held and Amenity sprayers handbook. It was likely that a first, revised draft, would be completed by the end of 2005.

He was challenging the need for booklets exclusively asking that BCPC consider electronic formats, posters etc.

Other booklets were on hold until the completion of this booklet.

91.5 STANDARDS DEVELOPMENTS

As with previous meetings T Bals updated the meeting on standards progress:

WG 4 - Field measurement of spray drift (TB) – *Now with Germany and Italy, no technical comments received back.*

WG 5 - Knapsack sprayers (WAT) – *Final draft out.*

WG 6 - Cleaning of sprayers – *Working group dormant*

WG 7 - Drift classification of sprayers and nozzles – *Final draft out..*

WG 8 - Deposit measurement in bush and tree crops – *P Walklate now on working group, meeting at Barcelona conference.*

WG 9 - Colour coding of nozzles - *progressing.*

Italy would lead a new work item on induction hoppers, Graham Basil providing UK input.
Best management practices – New work item, advisory group (5-6 workers)

95.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

95.6.1 **US EPA** reported as looking at something like LERAP, particularly with AI nozzles and Hardi Twin system

95.6.2 **LINK project Reduced Volume** a paper is to be given at the BCPC Glasgow and probably AAB, Cambridge Conferences

91.7 **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 22nd February 2006**
Venue offered by C Butler Ellis, PAN, to be confirmed