

BRITISH CROP PRODUCTION COUNCIL

EXPERT WORKING GROUP – APPLICATION (EWG-A)

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

R Bateman (Chairman)
T Bals
R Glass
P. Miller
T. Swan

C Butler Ellis
H Dobson
G. Matthews
T Robinson

99.1

99.1.1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from:
W Basford, J. Tobutt, R Makepeace

98.1.2 Minutes of the 98th meeting held on 10th March 2009 at Hypro, Longstanton

These were posted on the web-site and accepted

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

Following discussions with Colin Ruscoe, Paul Chambers has agreed to represent the National Farmers Union (NFU) at our meetings. Members of the WG were unanimously in favour.

TB recorded Bill Basford standing down as Secretary (with a vote of thanks) and a requirement for a replacement (TR suggested John Tobutt).

99.2 Future of the EWG

RP asked for comments on the draft terms of reference previously circulated. General comment was that they still read as a narrative rather than a plan of action. Emphasis should be made on:

- Unique grouping acting as a network for dissemination/ exchange of views for application issues in the UK
- Taking forward nozzle classification and synthesising the science (TR: UK farmers are worryingly ignorant about nozzles)
- Unique expertise illustrated especially by hand-books (also used overseas by GAM * RG)

HD agreed to edit new version of notes for circulation.

Preparation of a new nozzle handbook was discussed and also trying to organize a symposium on the LINK project/BREAM (but these were rejected for obvious reasons).

99.3 Standards development

TB was concerned about the potential role of European Standards on all application equipment being required to underpin placing of sprayers on the market under the revised EC Machinery Directive (covering environmental performance) and testing of sprayers in use under the EC Sustainable Use Directive - with the key existing EN12761 Standard fundamentally flawed. There would be a public consultation by CRD on the UK National Action Plan to implement the provisions of the Sustainable Use Directive.

On a more positive note, a new Chairman has been appointed for ISO/TC23/SC6 (which deals with crop protection).

99.4 Next meeting – will be the 100th Proposed theme “Project outputs and future developments” - possibly in collaboration with the AAB. To be confirmed: for April 2010.