



**INTRODUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN
MINOR USES COORDINATION FACILITY &
OVERVIEW OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION
ON MINOR USES WORK IN EUROPE.**

**CEUREG FORUM MEETING |MOJMÍROVCE|
23-24 SEPTEMBER**

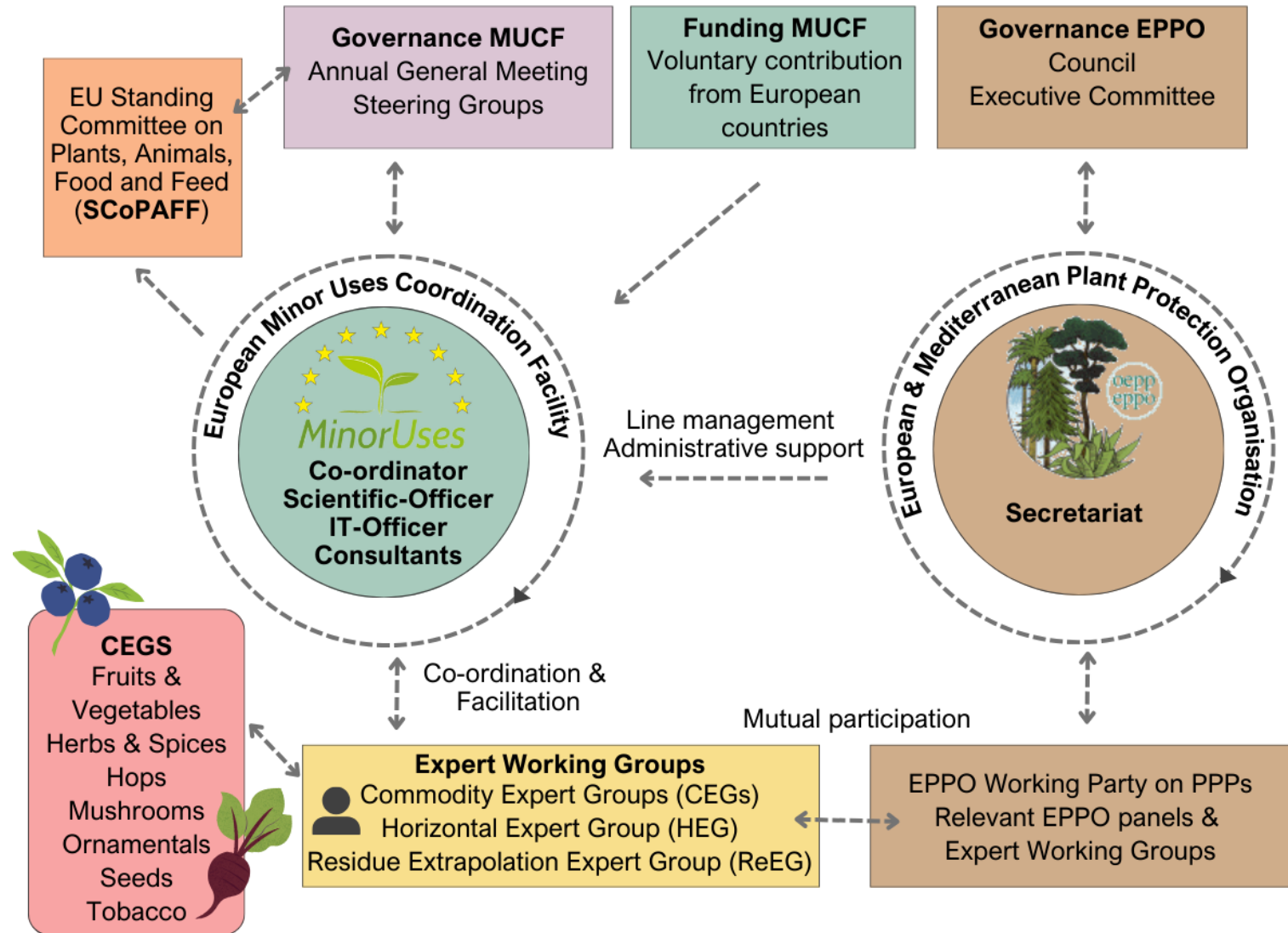
**MUCF TEAM
2024**

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN MINOR USES COORDINATION FACILITY (MUCF)

- **Established in 2015**, initially funded by the EU and the governments of France, Germany and the Netherlands for 3 years. Since 2019, funding has been dependent on voluntary contributions from European countries.
- 4 permanent staff members: Coordinator, Scientific Officer, IT Officer, Administrator + 2 consultants.
- The MUCF's **Mission** is to support European stakeholders in closing crop protection gaps in minor uses:
 - It coordinates **collaboration** and **information exchange** to improve the availability of sustainable crop protection solutions within an IPM framework.
 - The objective is to enable farmers to produce high-quality crops and contribute to sustainable European agriculture.
- The Facility is **service-oriented** towards the MUCF experts. It aims to build **trust and collaboration** between different European stakeholders.



MUCF ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE



MUCF MAIN FIELDS OF ACTIVITY & CORE COMPETENCIES

MUCF Meetings



- Host & facilitate MUCF Commodity Groups (CEG), Residue Expert Group (ReEG) and Horizontal Expert (HEG) meetings twice a year.
- Organise meetings between stakeholders to discuss possible solutions and approaches for identified minor uses needs.

Database EUMUDA



- Host & further develop the European Minor Uses Database (EUMUDA). <https://www.eumuda.eu>
- Implement & collect minor use needs and priorities, minor & major uses, minor & major crops, and crop acreage data information.
- Projects on identified PPP gaps (Expert Groups approved, data not public).

Information Exchange/ Awareness-raising



- Coordinate & support minor uses work among European countries and stakeholders.
 - Address regulatory hurdles & minor uses issues.
 - MUCF newsletter
 - EUMUDA latest news
 -  LinkedIn
- #LetsTalkAboutMinorUses
#MinorUsesMajorImportance



MINOR USES DEFINITION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Definition of minor uses according to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 – Article 3(26):

‘Use of a plant protection product in a particular Member State on plants or plant products which are:

National dimension

(a) not widely grown in that Member State, or

Minor crop

(b) widely grown to meet an exceptional plant protection need’

Minor use on a major crop

- Regulatory framework:
 - Regulation (EC) 1107/2009: Placing PPPs on the market.
 - Sustainable Use Directive 2009/128/EC.
 - Regulation (EC) 396/2005: PPP Residues.
 - National requirements and definitions.

 **The lack of a harmonised definition of a minor use is an obstacle for the authorisation of PPPs on minor uses.**



MUCF ACTIVITIES AND PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT MS

- Minor Uses Documents
- Databases
- What information can be accessed
- MUCF Projects
- MRL setting radish leaves
- Survey on active substances (Glyphosate, Spirotetramat etc.)

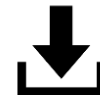
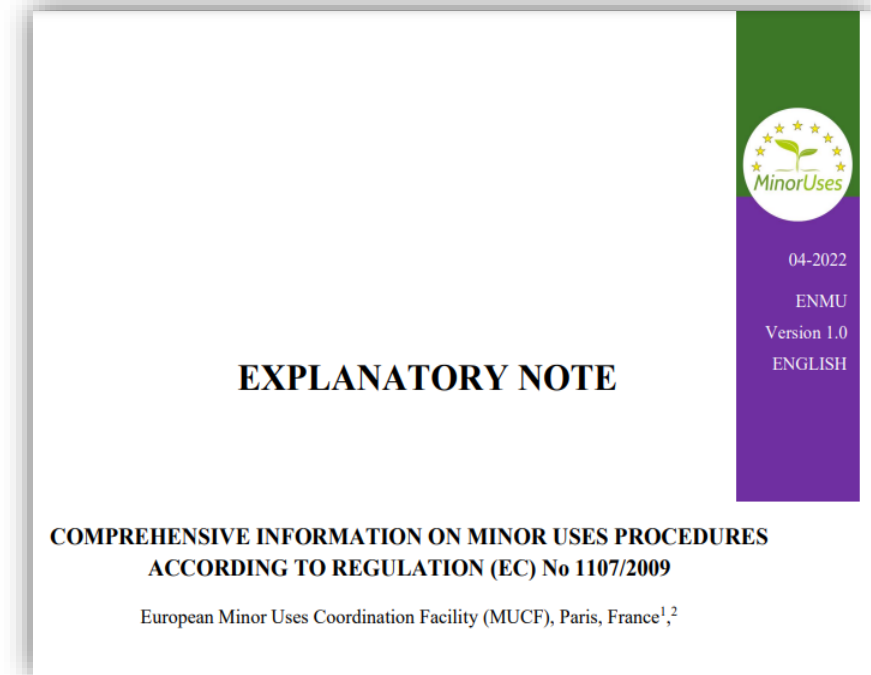


EXPLANATORY NOTE ON MINOR USES PROCEDURES ACCORDING TO REG. (EC) 1107/2009

- Endorsed by SCoPAFF in 2022.

Objectives:

- To encourage European countries to take a consistent approach for:
 - The evaluation of dossiers.
 - The use of the risk envelope approach.
 - The use of relevant extrapolation tables and extrapolation possibilities for residues.
- To stimulate the practical implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, reduce obstacles for mutual recognition of minor uses between European countries and to encourage harmonisation.
- To explain the application procedures to professional users, agricultural organisations, official or scientific bodies involved in agricultural activities and other stakeholders.



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EXPLANATORY NOTE ON MINOR USES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Background information on minor uses
- General description of the approval process of an active substance, and description of the authorisation process of a plant protection.
- Residue and MRLs in or on treated products, food and feed.
- Efficacy
- Possible measures for EU Member States to explore and facilitate the submission of applications for minor uses extensions.
- MUCF description of the process from identification of a crop-pest need for a minor use application.
- **Authorisations for minor uses:**
 - Principle of the risk envelope approach
 - Draft RR for an extension of authorisation for minor uses acc. to Article 51
 - **Overview of the general principles of the zonal system for minor uses, mutual recognition and applications for extension of authorization for minor uses.**
 - Renewal



EXPLANATORY NOTE ON MINOR USES

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Overview of the general principles of the zonal system for minor uses, mutual recognition and applications for extension of authorization for minor uses

Article 33 Application for authorisation	Article 40(1) General mutual recognition of authorisation	Article 40(2) General mutual recognition of authorisation	Article 51(1)-(6) Extension of authorisation for minor uses	Article 51(7) Specific mutual recognition for minor uses
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- APPLICANT
- REQUIREMENTS, CONSENT, AND PROCEDURE
- EFFICACY
- ASSESSMENT IF THE USE IS A MINOR USE IN THE GIVEN MS
- ASSESSMENT OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST
- EXTRAPOLATION REGARDING EFFICACY AND RESIDUE
- COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT
- LIABILITY
- DATA PROTECTION
- RISK ASSESSMENT: RESIDUE, ENVIRONMENTAL FATE, ECOTOXICOLOGY, AND TOXICOLOGY



Please provide us with your feedback/input on the document.

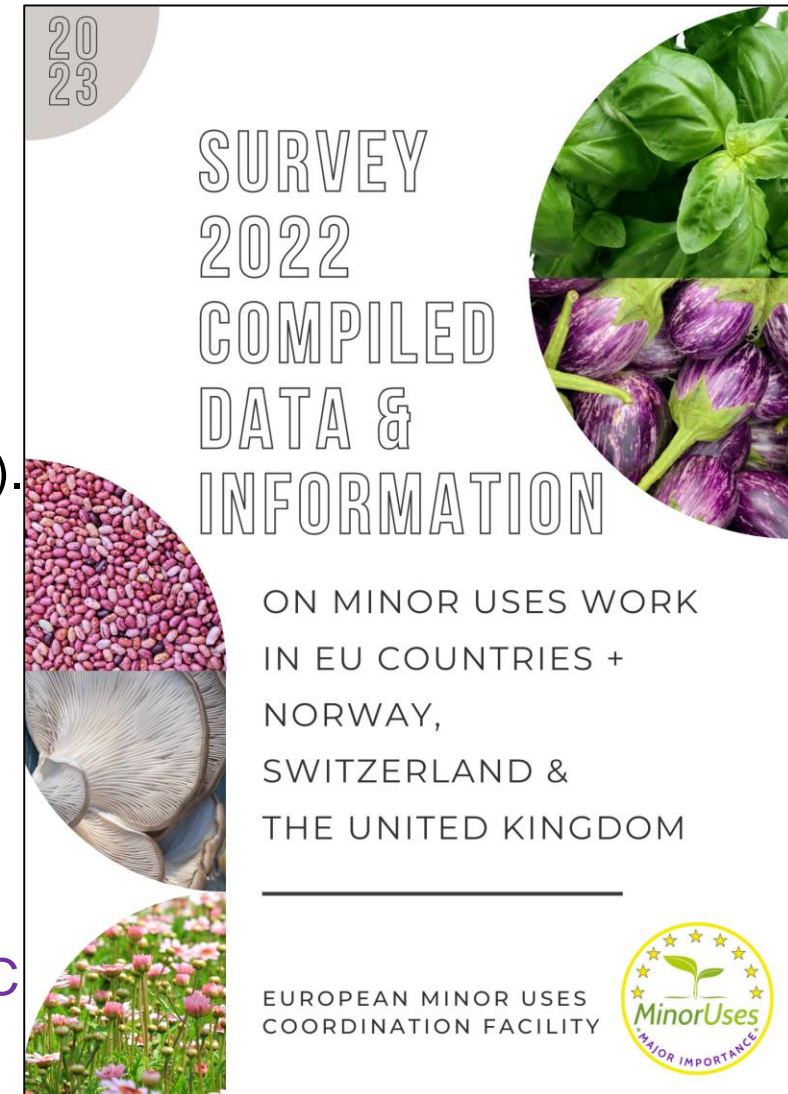
Note addendum 2025: simplified dRR part A



MUCF MINOR USES SURVEY 2022

- **Scope:** Provide an overview of information and compiled data on minor uses work and procedures in several European countries.
- Survey comprised 7 chapters:
 - Responsibilities, definition, data on minor uses and minor crops.
 - Trials.
 - Article 51 applications (extension of authorisation for minor uses).
 - Risk assessment.
 - Mutual recognition.
 - Draft Registration Report.
 - General topics.
- 22 countries participated in the 2022 survey.
- Document is available:

https://minoruses.eu/media/files/resources/MUCF_MU_Survey_2022_Compiled_Information_final.pdf



OUTCOME OF THE MINOR USES SURVEY 2022 PART 1

- **Definition of minor crops and uses:**
Diversity of criteria to define a minor crop/minor use in the European countries.

Mostly used for crops:

- Acreage
- Daily consumption


 The lack of a harmonised definition of a minor crop/use is an obstacle for the authorisation of PPPs on minor uses.

Table 17: A summary overview of criteria to define a minor use (N=21).

Criteria	No.	Details	European countries*
Uses on minor crops are considered minor uses	18		AT, BE, CH, CZ, DE, EE, FI, FR, GB, GR, IT, LT, LV, NO, NL, PL, PT, RO
Occurrence of the harmful organism on a major crop (sporadically and low acreage)	17	< 10 000 ha	DE, LV
		< 5 000 ha	LT
		No precise threshold was provided.	AT, BE, CH, CZ, FR, GB, GR, IT, LT, LV, NO, PL, RO
The use is considered of public interest (Public interest criteria are defined-nationally)	3	< 5% of the acreage of the major crop total cultivation area.	PT
		The crop is important in AT, or application is carried out within the framework of regionally adapted cultivation methods.	AT
		Economic argument, minor uses gap, availability of solutions, resistance mitigation measure, etc.	DE
Case by case	2	Low availability of PPP solutions for the use.	PT
		"Exceptional need" criterion.	NL
Deduction from the list of major uses	2	No criteria were defined.	SE
		All uses not listed in the major uses list are considered minor uses.	HU, IE
The product is authorised for organic farming	1		CZ
Control of quarantine pests	1	According to. Regulation. (EU) 2019/2072	IT

*Countries marked in bold are countries that did not provide the information in the Minor Uses Survey 2022 but for which data are available from previous exchanges with the National Contact Points (2017)

Table 4: A summary overview of the criteria to define a minor crop (N=24).

Criteria	No.	Details	European countries		
Acreage	21	< 30 000 ha (Forestry)	ES		
		< 20 000 ha	FR, IT ³ (2)		
		< 10 000 ha	AT, CZ, DE, ES (excluding forestry), IE, LV, PT, SK (8)		
		< 8 000 ha	FI		
		< 6 000 ha	HU		
		< 5 000 ha	Field crops	LT	
				NL	
		< 2 500 ha	NO		
		< 1 000 ha	Field crops	CH	
			Greenhouse crops	NL	
		< 500 ha (Vegetables, fruits)		CH	
		Percentage of total acreage:		< 1%	EE
				< 2%	PL
< 0.0035% (very minor crop)	SK				
No threshold was provided.		BE, GR, SE (3)			
Consumption	7	< 7.5 g/day/capita	EE, ES, PT (3)		
		< 1.5 g/day/capita	CZ		
		< 0.125 g/kg body weight (bw)/day	DE, FR (2)		
		No threshold provided	BE		
Volume of production	5	< 40 000 tonnes/year	DE, FR (2)		
		Percentage of total plant production volume (< 1%)	EE		
		No threshold provided	BE, GR (2)		
Type of crop Which crops are considered minor depends on different categories as detailed here.	4	Greenhouse, horticulture, autumn-sown oilseed crops, winter cereals apart from winter wheat & winter rye	FI		
		Fruits, vegetables, ornamentals.	SE		
		Forestry, ornamentals.	IT		
		All crops are minor apart grass, oats, barley, forage maize, wheat, sugar beet, dry harvest field beans, canola & potatoes other than seed potatoes.	GB		
Deduction	3	Any crop not listed in the national major crop list is minor.	DK, NO, RO		
None	4	No definition provided	CY, LU, MT, SI		

OUTCOME OF THE MINOR USES SURVEY 2022 PART 2

- **Risk assessments:** Importance of national requirements for the risk assessments. The national law, if it has different requirements, overrules the European law in case of risk assessment.
- **Production value:** Although minor crops are grown on lower acreage compared to major crops (mostly below 10% of the total cultivation acreage), the generated production value is high (7 to 49% of the total agricultural production value).

Some of the survey outcomes provide a basis for future work:

- explore the possibility of defining criteria for a European-wide harmonised definition of a minor crop.
- to develop an abridged draft Registration Report Part A (dRR Part A) template, which is foreseen to be used voluntarily by the applicant and/or the competent authority.



EUMUDA-DATABASE

- EUMUDA is a tool to collect the minor use needs from Member Countries to follow up on these needs, to manage projects and to display minor uses related information.

What kind of information can be found in EUMUDA?

- A compiled list of minor uses needs from Member Countries (with new data from 2021).
- An overview of ongoing projects and their status.
- Minor crop and use definitions
- List of minor/major crops and uses
- useful links

Lithuania

Example

Minor crop definition and/or criteria

cultivation area : less than 5.000 ha - this could change in the future (less than 10.000 ha)

Minor uses definition and/or criteria

Plants (crops) with an area of less than 5000 ha in the last 3 years and listed in Minor crop/ uses list.

or

Restricted use of plant protection products within the meaning of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 Article 3 (26) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

List of references

List of minor and major crops (update in 2021)

List of minor and major uses (update in 2021)

Minor Uses Useful links

Information on plant protection products (Ministry of Agriculture)

EUMUDA TABLE OF NEEDS

Crop EPPO Code	Crop common name	Pest EPPO Code	Pest scientific name	Pest common name	Frequency	Priority total points	Member States	Area of use	Function
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RUBID	raspberry	DROSSU	Drosophila suzukii	spotted wing drosophila	18	60	Northern: DK,EE,FI,NO,SE Central: AT,BE,CH,DE,HU,IE,NL,SI,SK,UK Southern: FR,IT,PT	f,fg	insecticide
DAUCS	carrot	PSILRO	Chamaepsila rosae	carrot fly	15	55	Northern: DK,EE,FI,LV,NO,SE Central: BE,CH,NL,SI,SK Southern: CY,ES,PT	f	insecticide
FRAAN	strawberry	DROSSU	Drosophila suzukii	spotted wing drosophila	13	45	Northern: EE,SE Central: BE,DE,HU,IE,NL,SI,SK,UK Southern: ES,FR,PT	f,fg	insecticide

EUMUDA includes 3573 needs from 28 countries. The table of needs is updated with the survey data from 2021 and is currently updated from the 2024 survey.









https://www.eumuda.eu/database/table_minor_uses



EUMUDA DATABASES: AVAILABLE DATA AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

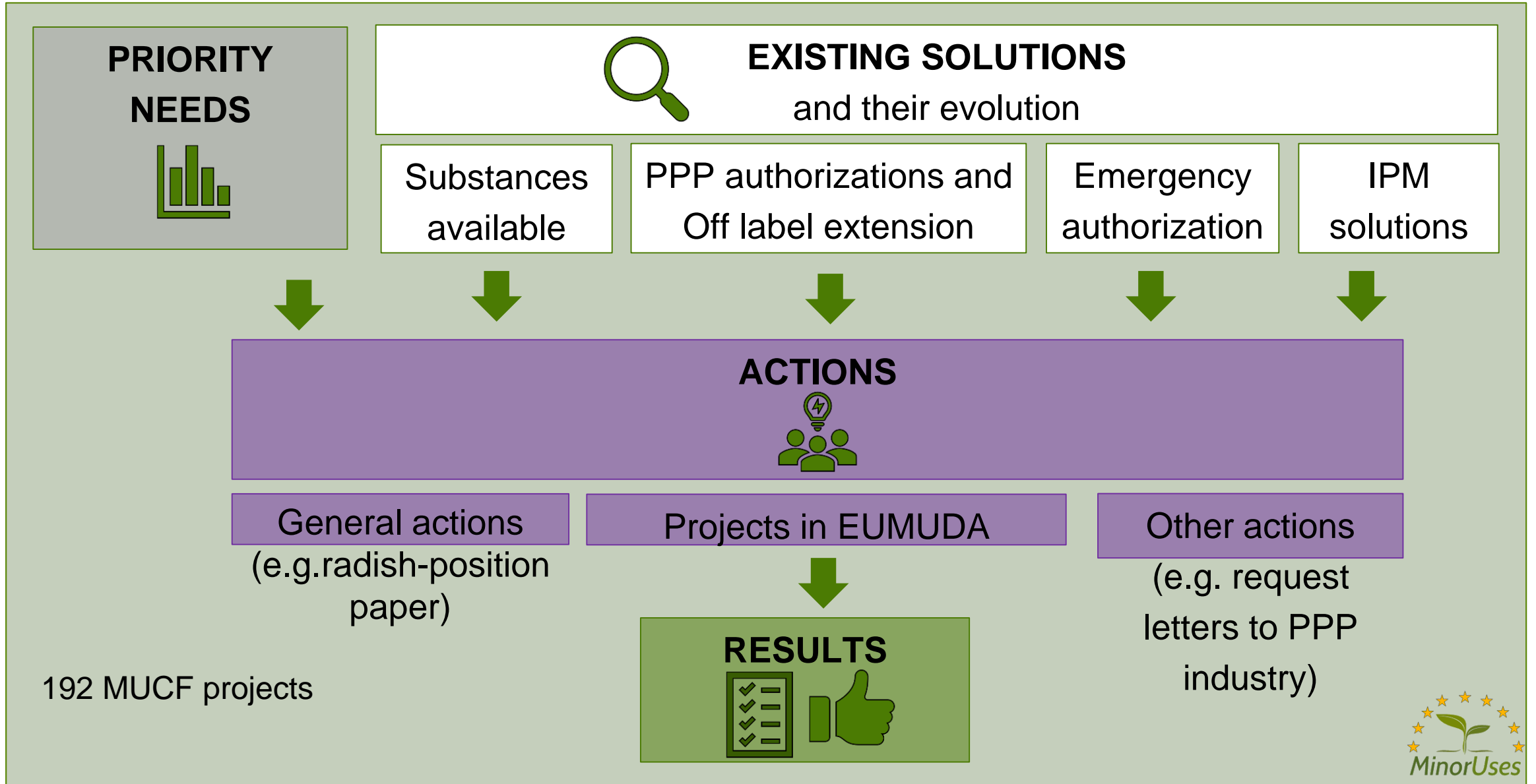
EUMUDA table of needs https://www.eumuda.eu/database/table_minor_uses

- The table of needs display minor uses gaps and information on the urgency and occurrence of needs in Europe, shared with the MUCF by the national MUCF contact points.
- The MUCF CEGs focus on closing these gaps by setting up projects (trial data generation and sharing).

CEG	Pest	Pest (common name)	Crop
Fruits & Vegetables 	<i>Drosophila suzukii</i>	Spotted wing drosophila	Raspberry
Fruits & Vegetables 	<i>Peronospora destructor</i>	Downy mildew	Onion
Tobacco 	<i>Peronospora hyoscyami</i>	Downy mildew	Tobacco
Hop 	<i>Pseudoperonospora humuli</i>	Downy mildew	Hop
Ornamentals 	<i>Frankliniella occidentalis</i>	Western flower thrips	Ornamental herbaceous plants
Mushrooms 	<i>Lecanicillium fungicola</i>	Verticillium	Button mushroom
Herbs and Spices 	<i>Peronospora belbahrii</i>	Downy mildew	Basil
Seeds 	<i>Myzus sp.</i>	Aphids	Seed production of vegetable crops



MUCF PROJECT SET-UP



MUCF PROJECT WORK FROM 2016-2024

Working Group	Project progress status			Total
	completed	ongoing	stopped	
Fruits & Veggies	83	24	15	122
Ornamentals	25	10	9	44
Herbs & Spices	1	0	0	1
Seeds	5	2	2	9
Tobacco	1	0	3	4
Hops	0	8	3	11
Mushrooms	0	1	0	1
Total	115	45	32	192

41% Insecticide, 27% Herbicide, 26% Fungicide, 5% Acaricide, 1% Nematicide & 1% plant growth regulator trials



MUCF EUMUDA LATEST NEWS E-LETTER

- Shared at least bi-annually with MUCF permanent commodity expert working group members

Content

- Authorisations granted
- New projects
- Project updates



Project n. **155**
updated on: 2021-03-25
started on: 2014-10-25

Crop(s): **asparagus (ASPOF)**
Pest(s): **weed plants (TTTTT)**
Area of use: Outdoor or field use
Leading MS: Germany
Countries participating: not specified
Countries interested: Belgium, France, the Netherlands
Product authorised: Fresco (Metobromuron) in Germany
Project regulatory zone(s): Central, Southern
Public comments: Product: Fresco (BCP 259 H), 400 g/l Metobromuron

- France: asparagus (ASPOF) / *dicotyledonous weeds* (3DICOT) - Outdoor or field use (need id n. **1518**)

MUCF suggested possible solution for correlated needs:



SOLUTIONS AVAILABLE UPDATED 2024 (SHORTENED LIST) GAP IS CLOSED

Need id	Crop name	Pest scientific name	Area of use	Function	MS	Art. 53	Comments
4519	peas	Aphis fabae	F	Insec.	DE		Teppeki (Flonicamid) authorisation (2024)
4543	broad beans	Aphis fabae	F	Insec.	DE		Teppeki (Flonicamid) authorisation (2024)
379	beetroot	Cercospora beticola	F	Fungic.	HU		art. 51. extension of authorisation of several fungicides e. g. Signum WG (boscalid+pyraclostrobin) reg. no. 6700/0025513-2/2024., Champion WG (copper-hydroxide) reg. no. 6700/0009268-2/2024.
433	spinach	Peronospora farinosa	F & G	Fungi.	HU		art. 51. extension of authorisation of Infinito (fluopicolide+propamocarb-hydrochloride) reg. no. 6700/35-2/2023.
5459	raspberry	Phytophthora rubi	F & G	Fungi.	LV		Alliete (fosetyl, 800g/kg), 2018 - Several solutions available
5460	strawberry	Phytophthora cactorum	F & G	Fungic.	LV		Alliete (fosetyl, 800 g/kg), 2018 - Several solutions available
862	onion	Stromatinia cepivora	F	Fungic.	NL		
967	sweet pepper	Capsicum annuum	G	Insec.	NL		Solved
7463	pear	Echinochloa crus-galli	F	Herbic.	NL		Solved
4627	carrot	Alternaria dauci	F	Fungic.	GB		Fungicide options available
4637	chives	Puccinia allii	F & G	Fungic.	GB		Control options available
4638	white cabbage	Neopseudocercospora brassicae	F	Fungic.	GB		
4643	sweet corn	Nezara viridula	F	Insectic.	GB		Entry details corrected
4654	onion	Stromatinia cepivora Sclerotium cepivorum	F	Fungic.	GB		Entry details corrected. Infected fields largely avoided
4656	broccoli	Pieris brassicae	F	Insectic.	GB		
4657	carrot	Sclerotinia sclerotiorum	F	Fungic.	GB		Fungicide options available

EUMUDA DATABASES: AVAILABLE DATA AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Minor/major crops database https://www.eumuda.eu/database/minor_major_crops

- Database of the crop statuses in the European countries + criteria to define a minor crop.
- 17 countries included for now: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Slovakia and the United Kingdom.

Crop English common name	Crop scientific name (preferred)	Crop EPP Code	Crop qualifier	European Country	Minor / major crop
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Trifolium sp.	Trifolium sp.	TRFSS		Portugal	Minor crop
myrrh,sweet chervil,sweet cicely	Myrrhis odorata	MYHOD		Belgium	Minor crop
white cabbage	Brassica oleracea var. capitata	BRSOL		Austria	Minor crop
Brussels sprouts	Brassica oleracea var. gemmifera	BRSOF		Austria	Minor crop
welsh onion	Allium fistulosum	ALLFI		Hungary	Minor crop
apricot	Prunus armeniaca	PRNAR		Hungary	Minor crop
hemp	Cannabis sativa	CNISA		France	Minor crop



MUCF MINOR USES ISSUES SUPPORT, EXAMPLE RADISH LEAVES

Position statement on Appendix I of Regulation (EG) Nr. 396/2005 for: Allocation of radish leaves from small radishes (*Raphanus sativus* var. *radicula* Pers.) to the group “Rocket/rucola (Wild rocket)”, currently allocated to MRL of “Kale”.

- Change of Appendix I of EU regulation 396/2005 by taking out radish leaves of small radishes (*Raphanus sativus* var. *radicula*) from the group of Kale (0243020 Part A).
- New place should be in the group of lettuces and salad plants (0251000 Part A), allocated with Roman rocket/Rucola/Wild rocket (0251060).
- With own individual number (0251060-002 Part B) to indicate their belonging to this group and to allocate them in Part B of Annex 1.
- Final voted on at SCoPAFF Residue, in April 2024.



MUCF MINOR USES ISSUES SUPPORT EXAMPLE RADISH LEAVES



Advantages

- Small radishes and rucola belong to the same family of Brassicaceae (Re-allocation can be justified).
- MRLs set at levels corresponding to small radish leaves will **not** influence MRLs for Kale.
- MRLs set at levels corresponding to small radish leaves will be **similar** to rucola.
- No change of extrapolation guideline SANTE/2019/12752 is necessary to expand extrapolation possibilities for radish leaves.
- Specific trials for MRL-setting for radish leaves are required less frequently (extrapolation from lettuces open leaf varieties -> “worst case scenario”).
- Current MRLs for rucola **more frequently** cover residue levels in radish leaves.
- Daikon Radishes/Japanese Radishes (*Raphanus sativus* var. *longipinnatus*) & Black radishes/winter radishes/'Gros noir d'hiver (*Raphanus sativus*) remain in the Kale group.

Disadvantages

- Change of current classification in Annex I (unpredictable decision-making).
- Crops of the same family in different MRL groups.



COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

- MUCF participates in several meetings, conferences and working groups to **raise awareness on** minor uses issues:



- The MUCF contributed data and information to the “OECD Guidance Document on addressing minor uses”. The guidance document collates a variety of existing information regarding the registration of pesticides for minor uses in a centralised document. The document was published at the end of 2023 and is accessible under: [https://one.oecd.org/document/ENV/CBC/MONO\(2023\)40/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/ENV/CBC/MONO(2023)40/en/pdf)
- The MUCF intends to **strengthen its collaboration** with the PPP industry in future.



FUTURE CHALLENGES FOR MINOR USES

- Decline of the number of available active substances in EU.
 - Decline of PPP industry investment in new active substance development.
 - Farm to Fork strategy with two main targets:
 - Target 1: - 50% in **use and risk of chemical pesticides** by 2030.
 - Target 2: - 50% in **use of most hazardous pesticides** by 2030.



Increase in the number of minor uses gaps in the near future.

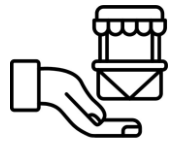


WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE & EXPAND THE WORK ON MINOR USES?

- Preserving **agrobiodiversity** and improving **ecological resilience**.
- Enforcing **European food security** and the **sustainability** of European agriculture in the long term.

“Minor uses production should be considered as an ecosystem service”.

- Diversifying agro-ecosystems (e.g. habitat fragmentation) benefits **crop/pollination** systems.
- Positive effects on **human health** (nutritional diversity) and **mental well-being** (landscape diversity).
- **Cultural and traditional importance** of minor crops in local food culture and heritage.
- Building **durable ecosystems**, more capable of withstanding the impact of climate change.





QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



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