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Basic information	
<p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p> <p>2022/0196(COD)</p>	Awaiting Council's 1st reading position
<p>Sustainable use of plant protection products</p> <p>Amending Regulation 2021/2115 2018/0216(COD)</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>3.10.09.02 Plant health legislation</p> <p>3.70.13 Dangerous substances, toxic and radioactive wastes (storage, transport)</p> <p>3.70.20 Sustainable development</p> <p>Legislative priorities</p> <p>Joint Declaration 2023-24</p> <p>Joint Declaration 2022</p>	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	 Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		Appointed
			01/09/2022
			 WIENER Sarah
			Shadow rapporteur
			 BERNHUBER Alexander
			 ARENA Maria
			 HUITEMA Jan
			 VONDRA Alexandr
			 HAZEKAMP Anja
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	 Development		Appointed
			17/01/2023
			 RIVASI Michèle
	 Agriculture and Rural Development (Associated committee)		08/11/2022
		 AGUILERA Clara	

European Commission	Commission DG Health and Food Safety	Commissioner KYRIAKIDES Stella
European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions		

Key events

22/06/2022	Legislative proposal published	COM(2022)0305	Summary
04/07/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
15/12/2022	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
24/10/2023	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
07/11/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0339/2023	Summary
21/11/2023	Debate in Parliament		
22/11/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
22/11/2023	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/0196(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation 2021/2115 2018/0216(COD)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 192-p1; Rules of Procedure EP 57
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Council's 1st reading position
Committee dossier	ENVI/9/09425

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(2022)0305	22/06/2022	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SEC(2022)0257	23/06/2022	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2022)0169	23/06/2022	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2022)0170	23/06/2022	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2022)0171	23/06/2022	EC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES3220/2022	14/12/2022	ESC	
Committee draft report		PE742.368	06/02/2023	EP	

Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR4989/2022	15/03/2023	CofR	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.541	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.542	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.543	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.544	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE746.671	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.545	04/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE746.673	05/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE746.674	05/04/2023	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE746.683	05/04/2023	EP	
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE745.174	01/06/2023	EP	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE746.873	25/10/2023	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0339/2023	07/11/2023	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0424/2023	22/11/2023	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2024)109	23/02/2024	EC	

Sustainable use of plant protection products

PURPOSE: to reduce the use and risks of pesticides in the EU and to achieve the objectives set out in the Farm to Table Strategy and the EU Biodiversity Strategy.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: [Directive 2009/128/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council established a framework for achieving a sustainable use of pesticides by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment. The evaluation of this Directive has shown that it has not achieved its overall objectives and that Member States have not implemented it satisfactorily

In its [resolution](#) of 12 February 2019 on the implementation of Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides, the European Parliament stated that the EU should act without delay to move towards a more sustainable use of pesticides and called on the Commission to propose an ambitious and binding Union-wide target for reducing pesticide use. The European Parliament reiterated its call for binding reduction targets in its resolution of 20 October 2021 on a Farm to Fork strategy.

The Commission's Farm to Fork strategy proposes two specific objectives, namely to reduce the use of chemical pesticides and the risks associated with them and to reduce the use of more hazardous pesticides by 2030. EU regulation in this area should therefore be strengthened.

The Commission proposal has the following objectives:

- reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides, in particular those containing more hazardous active substances;
- increase the application and enforcement of integrated pest management (IPM); and
- increase the use of less hazardous and non-chemical alternatives to chemical pesticides for pest control;
- improve the availability of monitoring data;
- improve the implementation, application and enforcement of legal provisions across all Member States to improve policy effectiveness and efficiency;
- promote the adoption of new technologies, such as precision farming that makes use of space data and services (including geospatial localisation techniques), with the aim of reducing the overall use and risk of pesticides.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes new rules to reduce the use and risks of plant protection products in the EU, in line with the objective of a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system set out in the Farm to Table strategy.

Binding targets

The proposal sets out the EU's objectives of reducing pesticide use and associated risks by 50%, in line with the Farm to Table strategy, to which Member States will (collectively) have to contribute. It foresees that Member States should adopt binding targets under their national law, which can deviate from the 50% level of the EU targets under a binding formula. The Commission would issue recommendations to set increasing targets in certain cases and would publish trends in progress towards the EU's 2030 reduction targets.

Pest control

The proposal sets out strict rules to ensure that pest control is environmentally friendly through a comprehensive implementation framework in which all farmers practice integrated pest management. The use of plant protection products would only be possible as a last resort after alternative methods have been considered.

The proposal requires professional users to keep records on IPM and to use independent advisors. It provides for the adoption and oversight of crop-specific rules for IPM that must be respected by professional users. It also provides for the establishment of an electronic IPM register.

Requirements for the use, storage and disposal of pesticides

The proposal sets out the requirement for professional users, distributors and advisors to hold a training certificate in certain circumstances. It also sets out general requirements for the use of pesticides and application equipment. In addition, it contains provisions on:

- the use of plant protection products: all pesticides would be banned from use in such areas (and within 3 metres of such areas) such as public parks or gardens, playgrounds or sports grounds, public footpaths, and environmentally sensitive areas;
- protection of the aquatic environment and drinking water: the use of all plant protection products is prohibited on all surface waters and within 3 metres of such waters;
- aerial application: this should be prohibited, with limited derogations on a case-by-case basis where it has a less negative impact on human health and the environment than any alternative application method;
- storage, disposal and handling: Member States should have in place effective measures and the necessary structures to facilitate the safe disposal of any unused plant protection products, dilute solutions containing plant protection products and packaging in a manner that does not endanger human health or the environment.

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Under the new CAP (due to be implemented from 1 January 2023), Member States will be helped to: (i) fund actions in line with the pesticide-reduction targets in the farm-to-fork strategy; and (ii) promote sustainable farming practices.

Sustainable use of plant protection products

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety adopted the report by Sarah WIENER (Greens/EFA, AT) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115.

The committee responsible recommended that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the proposal as follows:

Subject matter

The amended text stipulated that the Regulation aims to reduce the risks for and impacts on human health and the environment of the use of plant protection products and to reduce dependency on plant protection products. It lays down rules for the sustainable use of plant protection products, while ensuring sustainable crop protection, by:

- defining and laying down requirements for the implementation of integrated pest management;
- establishing measures to improve the authorisation procedure and placing on the market of low-risk plant protection products and plant protection products containing solely active substances exerting biological control, with the aim of lowering the negative impact of plant protection measures;
- establishing requirements for the use, storage, sale and disposal of plant protection products and for application equipment, worker protection, protection of the public, and training, independent advice, and awareness raising;
- establishing requirements for the monitoring of plant protection product residues and their metabolites in the environment and humans.

Union 2030 reduction targets for chemical plant protection products

According to Members, each Member State should contribute, through the adoption and achievement of national targets, to achieving by 2030 at least a 50% Union-wide reduction of the use and risk of chemical plant protection products and a 65% Union-wide reduction of the use of more hazardous plant protection products, compared to the average of the years 2013 to 2017. The Commission had proposed a 50% target for both based on the 2015-2017 average.

Members also wanted the Commission to set an EU target for increasing overall sales of low-risk plant protection products by 2030, six months after the regulation comes into force.

Examination by the Commission

The Commission should review and assess the national reduction targets communicated to it and the information explaining any lowering of the targets. On the basis of this assessment, the Commission should verify whether the national reduction targets communicated by each Member State need to be set at a more ambitious level.

Integrated pest management using crop-specific rules

In order to maximise the impact of national strategies, Member States should put in place crop-specific rules for at least the five crops that have most strongly influenced the evolution of the use and risks of chemical plant protection products and the use of the most dangerous plant protection products.

Monitoring of plant protection product residues and their metabolites in the environment and in humans

The amended text called on Member States, 24 months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation, to put in place representative monitoring programmes of residues of plant protection products and their metabolites in water resources, groundwater, soil, air, dust, precipitation, biota and in humans, to assess whether the findings comply with the predicted exposure from environmental and human risk assessments under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

Imports of agricultural and agri-food products from third countries

According to the report, by 31 December 2025, the Commission should carry out an impact assessment examining the differences in the use of plant protection products on imported products, compared to domestically produced agricultural and agri-food products.

Export of active substances and plant protection products not approved in the Union

The report stated that the production, storage, circulation in the Union and export to third countries from the Union should be prohibited for active substances and plant protection products for which the approval or authorisation under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 has been refused, revoked or not renewed for public health environmental reasons.

International dialogue on the use of plant protection products

Members called on the Commission, together with the Member States, should start or maintain, as appropriate, a dialogue with third countries with a view to exchanging information on the use and risk of plant protection products.

Financing

The amended text stated that Member States should ensure that professional users are eligible for financial support linked to implementing integrated pest management and reducing the use and risk of chemical plant protection products. In order to support farmers in reducing the use of chemical plant protection products, Member States should furthermore consider as many funding sources as possible available to them, including Union funds and national contributions including state aid.

By the end of December 2026, the Commission may, where appropriate, propose the creation of a new Union funding instrument for the transition and adaptation of agriculture in the future Multiannual Financial Framework.

Commission evaluation and review

By 30 June 2027, and every two years thereafter, the Commission should carry out an evaluation of this Regulation based on, inter alia, the monitoring of residues of plant protection products and their metabolites in the environment and in humans. The Commission should develop a strategy for the sustainable use of plant protection products after 2030 and should assess whether the establishment of targets beyond 2030 will be necessary.

Sustainable use of plant protection products

The European Parliament rejected (by 207 votes to 299, with 121 abstentions) the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. It invited the Commission to withdraw its proposal.

With this vote, Parliament has completed its first reading. The Council still has to state its own position on the proposal in order to determine whether it is definitively rejected or sent back to Parliament for a second reading.

Transparency				
HAZEKAMP Anja	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	21/11/2023	Friends of the Earth Europe
LINS Norbert	Committee chair	AGRI	20/11/2023	COPA-COGECA
AGUILERA Clara	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	15/11/2023	aepla
BERNHUBER Alexander	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	14/11/2023	Copa-Cogeca
HAZEKAMP Anja	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	13/11/2023	Pesticides Action Network
BOGOVI? Franc	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	13/11/2023	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food - Republic of Slovenia Kmetijsko-gozdarska zbornica Slovenije Sindikat kmetov Slovenije

				Zveza slovenske podeželske mladine Zadružna zveza Slovenije
BOGOVI? Franc	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	AGRI	10/11/2023	Copa-Cogeca
LIMMER Sylvia	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	09/11/2023	CropLife Europe
LINS Norbert	Committee chair	AGRI	08/11/2023	COPA-COGECA
LINS Norbert	Committee chair	AGRI	07/11/2023	Landwirtschaftlicher Verein Posthausen
EROGLU Engin	Member	12/12/2023	Deutscher Weinbauverband e.V. Durbacher Winzer eG	
MÜLLER Ulrike	Member	05/12/2023	Verband der Chemischen Industrie e.V.	
LUENA César	Member	01/12/2023	WWF España	
BENIFEI Brando	Member	21/11/2023	CropLife Europe	
SOKOL Tomislav	Member	20/11/2023	Udruga proizvođača i zastupnika sredstava za zaštitu bilja RH - CROCPA	
LIESE Peter	Member	17/11/2023	Deutscher Bauernverband	
SKYTTEDAL Sara	Member	17/11/2023	LRF	
LIESE Peter	Member	16/11/2023	Arbeitsgemeinschaft Biologischer Umweltschutz Landwirte Vertreter des Landkreises Soest	
FRITZON Helène	Member	16/11/2023	Naturskyddsöreningen	
LUENA César	Member	15/11/2023	Asociación Empresarial para la Protección de las Plantas	