Revised Pesticides Forum business plan for 2005

Introduction

At the 6 October 2004 meeting the secretariat circulated a paper summarising progress with implementing the Forum's 2004-2005 Business Plan. This showed that most of the priorities that the Forum had set itself to do in 2004 were completed. At the October meeting it was agreed that the items not covered would be picked up in 2005.

During the year a number of others topics arose which members wanted to look at in 2005.

This paper summarises the outstanding Business Plan issues and sets out possible Agendas for 2005 which take account of these and the priorities agreed since the Business Plan was published.

The Forum's revised priorities for 2005

- develop a response to the ACP [Advisory Committee on Pesticides] proposals on alternative approaches to pest control; February
- develop proposals for removing the barriers to knowledge transfer of research aimed at reducing the impacts of pesticides; February
- continue to develop and monitor indicators of pesticide use and the impact of pesticide use; February
- update on progress with the follow up to the Voluntary Initiative; June
- consider how to promote the use of the Voluntary Initiative's (VI) environmental information sheets; June
- look at the implications of the EC review of active ingredients and Directive 91/414; June
- continue to contribute to the development of a national strategy for the sustainable use of pesticides; June
- follow up the outcomes from the Food Standards Agency's Working Group on the Risk Assessment of Mixtures of Pesticides (WiGRAMP) report on the cocktail effects of pesticides; June
• review and advise PSD [Pesticides Safety Directorate] on the development of a research strategy to support and promote risk reduction from pesticide use; this is an area of work which still needs the Forum's attention; **June**

• contribute to the development of the Government's response to the EU's proposals for a thematic strategy for pesticides; **October**

• continue to develop ways to make the public aware of why pesticides are used and what the concerns are arising from their use; **October**

• how can decision support systems be improved and promoted to make them more widely used; **October**

• how can pesticide application technology help to reduce environmental impacts of pesticides; **October**

The effect of this revised plan, and the additional items agreed in 2004 for discussion during 2005, is that the Agendas for 2005 could look like this:

**February**

• Introduction of Foodaware and Amenity Forum as members*
• ACP Alternatives paper
• Disposal of waste farm plastic consultation*
• 2004 Indicators report *
• 2004 Annual Report *
• Crop Protocol session *

**June**

• Garden products presentation *
• Fungicide resistance*
• National pesticides strategy
• Follow up to VI and promotion of Environmental Information Sheets
• Impact of EC Review
• Update on progress of WiGRAMP recommendations
• Research Strategy
• Business Plan 2006/07 – first thoughts *
October

- EU Thematic Strategy
- Communication and public awareness
- Promotion of Decision Support systems
- Application technology
- Business Plan 2006/07 *

* Items not included in the original 2004-2005 business plan.

Review of this revised plan

This revised plan will be reviewed towards the end of 2005 when a new Business Plan for 2006 and 2007 will be drawn up.

Pesticides Forum
November 2004