What is the VI?

- Industry led “voluntary” programme
- Promoting responsible pesticide use
- UK wide w Stakeholder buy-in
- Thirteen years of success
- Strong track record
  - Farmer participation (farm assurance)
  - Water protection
  - Biodiversity
## VI Steering Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farming and Crop Protection Industry Sponsor the VI</th>
<th>Stakeholder / Environmental Groups</th>
<th>Government Regulators Policy Makers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• AEA</td>
<td>• BASIS</td>
<td>• NE</td>
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<td>• AIC</td>
<td>• NPTC City &amp; Guilds</td>
<td>• SEPA</td>
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<td>• CPA</td>
<td>• Water UK</td>
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<td>• LEAF</td>
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<td>• CLA</td>
<td>• GWCT</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Promoting responsible pesticide use
Management Structure

VI Steering Group

Amenity Forum

Secretariat
Funded by sponsors

Regional Implementation Groups:
N Ireland
Scotland
Wales

VI Strategy Group

Environmental Land Management Group
w CFE

VI-CIC
Contracts, Finance, Services, Projects

VI Water Sub-Group

The Voluntary Initiative
Promoting responsible pesticide use
Partnerships

- Catchment Sensitive Farming
- Environment Agency
- Campaign for the Farmed Environment
- Tried and Tested
- Greenhouse Gas Action Plan (GHGAP)

- Pelletwise
- Say No to Drift
- Other
Major Activities

- BETA Biodiversity and Environmental Training for Advisers
- NRSoSO National Register of Sprayer Operators
- NSTS National Sprayer Testing Scheme
- Integrated Pest Management Plan
- H2O K? Think Water
- Other Campaigns
An annual review of crop protection practice by farmers
VI NRoSO Courses to Date

2001/2  2002/3  2003/4  2004/5  2005/6  2006/7

Avoiding Water Pollution
LERAPS & DRIFT CONTROL
Sprayer Cleaning Testing & Checking
H₂O? Think Water
Pesticide Container Management


Slugs, solids & safety
Sprayers, stores and buffers
Timing targets & water
Problems & Solutions
Water widgets
ACT

The Voluntary Initiative
Promoting responsible pesticide use
The VI Now:
Industry-led voluntary approach promoting responsible pesticide use

Sustainable Use Directive

Water Framework Directive

Pollinators
Pollinators

- Insecticide Best Practice Advice
- IPMP
- NRoSO Roadshow
Sustainable Use Directive

- Operator Certification
  - Grandfathers

- Sprayer Testing

- IPM Plans

Grassland Farmers!
Water Framework Directive

• Defra Water Quality and Agriculture Project?

• OSR Herbicides Initiative 2015?

• Grassland Herbicides?
Pesticides and Drinking Water
Surface Water abstractions at risk
Environment Agency 2014

No. of Drinking Water Catchments

OSR
Industry Opportunities

• CAP Reform and Greening
• Plant breeding
• Research- Ag tech strategy and the Levy Boards Research
• New Technology
  – Satellite guidance systems
  – Auto control sprayer booms
  – Advances in nozzle design
VI – The Future

• Strategic review conclusions
  – Aims for VI revised
  – Key priorities agreed
  – Operations Director and Water Quality Manager