

Advising and prospects for IPM in the Baltic states

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Why farmers implement requirements...



New Directive is a New Challenge

- All new requirements obligate farmers to make changes – they are not happy.
- The tools necessary to encourage and facilitate this process of adjustment are **knowledge, information and advice.**



Advising bodies in Baltic States

Lithuania

- The Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service
- The Chamber of Agriculture
- Private companies, private advisers, researches, dealers

Latvia

- Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre
- Private companies and private advisers
- Researchers
- Dealers of Plant protection products

Advising on IPM in Lithuania

- The leading company involved in farmers' training and consulting is the Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (LAAS).
- The Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service has already been accredited to consult the farmers on farm management, environment, health of society, animals and plants (Cross-compliance).



Advising on IPM in Latvia

- The largest and widest rural consultancy enterprise covering the whole territory of Latvia – Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre
- provide advice and carry out training for farmers and plant protection products dealers on farm management, environment, plant protection, the sprayers technical quality

Advisers are ready to provide service or be a lecturer

➤ Proper qualification:

- Theoretical and practical trainings in average 100 hour/year.



➤ Well equipped:

- Computer programs
- Methodical and demonstration material for trainings
- Cameras, GPS equipments, PC with internet connection, etc.



Methods and tools for IPM (1)

Organizing of training for farmers according to the programs certified by the Ministry of Agriculture (LT,LV)

- Who sells, stores, buys, uses pesticides
- Information materials on the harmful organisms
- Programs for crop cultivation in organic and conventional farm
- Open days on farms for farmers



Methods and tools for IPM (2)

Establishing of Demonstration Field Trials (LT,LV)

PURPOSE – move research to the farmers' fields

Partnership: researcher, adviser, farmer



Methods and tools for IPM (3)

Goals of establishment of demonstration farms (LV)

- To promote links between research and agricultural production
- To promote use of results obtained within theoretical studies by informing a wider range of producers
- To promote implementation of innovative solutions and agricultural development



Methods and tools for IPM (4)

Provision of individual advices and services related with IPM (LT,LV)

- Advice on plant cultivation.
- Advice on the harmful organisms and plant protection.
- Service to prepare report on used plant protection products.
- Service to prepare report on Field history (LV)

Economical and legislation aspects

Independent and neutral opinion!

Methods and tools for IPM (5)

Diseases and pests forecast:

- For horticulture (in LT done by researches, in LV done by association and researchers)
- For grain, oil rape seed, potatoes (in LT, LAAS since 2011, in LV – advisers, plant protection service, researchers)



Diseases and pests forecast

- Objective – timely identification of disease and pest spreading and timely use of chemical protection means.
- Monitoring of plant disease and pest spreading in field
- Assessment of potential damage to yields by pests, provision of independent consultations
- Graphic dynamics and visual materials of harmful organism spreading – in www.agroakademija.lt and www.llkc.lv



Use of Meteorological Data for Disease and Pest Forecast

- Temperature, precipitation, wind direction and speed have great influence on disease and pest spreading.
- Metpole establishes the mentioned parameters for a specific territory and relate them with disease forecasting modules



Future prospects

- Continuation of present activities
- Improved forecast (LT)
- GIS maps and data from Plots register (LT)-
propose services for precise farming
- Trainings for farm employers (LV)
- Trainings for organic and conventional farmers
about IPM
- Trainings for advisers

Our Experience (LT,LV)

- Essential element in successful consulting is partnership with client: voluntary attendance, confidentiality, independent opinion.
- We are faced farmers with different knowledge level.
- Most effective method to transfer information and to implement IPM or requirements is an individual advice on farm.
- To encourage implementation of IPM or new requirements – necessary to propose support measures, assistance, promotion means on national level.

Acknowledgement

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SIA "Latvijas Lauku konsultāciju un izglītības centrs"

Thank you for attention

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