

ENDURE NEWS, Issue 15, June 2012

Welcome to the 15th edition of ENDURE News, the electronic newsletter from ENDURE. Please feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues.

• Update from ENDURE task leader Piet Boonekamp

While European Commission funding of ENDURE may have ended in 2010, nearly all partners decided to continue in this important European network of crop protection research, university and extension groups. And continuation is extremely important as the ambition of the Directive 2009/128/EC demands challenging research to revive and rejuvenate the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept from decades ago, writes Piet Boonekamp, one of ENDURE's task leaders.



• Country profile: France

In the third of our country profiles we examine France, where the ambitious challenge has been set of halving pesticide use nationally over the course of 10 years. Philippe Delval, an ENDURE participant working at ACTA, the 'Network for Innovative Research in Agriculture', and Marco Barzman, ENDURE's Scientific Officer, examine Ecophyto 2018, France's National Action Plan.



Necessary minimum in Germany

In its quest toward reducing environmental risks associated with pesticide use by 25% by 2020, Germany has developed a new assessment tool, the 'necessary minimum'. The concept, which defines a level of pesticide use above which further use would be unnecessary, is not as simple or simplistic as it seems.



New project takes global tack on invasive pests

Researchers from across the globe seeking to control two invasive pests causing major damage to tomato and fruit crops are set to benefit from a new project, proposed by ENDURE and funded under the European Commission's FP7 International Research Staff Exchange programme.



• New Advisers refreshes advice

IPM relies on new technical content but also on effective learning approaches to innovation. 'New Advisers' is a project that will promote new ways of delivering farm advice. Discussion groups, problem-based learning, clear vision, and forum theatre are among the learning methods that will be tested by farm advisors in eight European countries. ENDURE welcomes this refreshing input and will collaborate with New Advisers to build synergies between the two groups.



• Sign up: ENDURE summer school on agroecology

ENDURE is conducting its fourth Summer School, running between October 7 and 12 2012, in Volterra, Italy. The five-day course will focus on 'Agroecological engineering for crop protection' and will bring together up to 20 PhD-level students. To ensure diversity among participating students, ENDURE is offering three grants covering local expenses (food, lodging and participation in the course) - travel costs are not covered. Read



on if you wish to participate.

• Advisers: join online forum to share IPM knowledge

Following April's ENDURE Network of Advisers workshop in Paris, France, VfL, the Danish Agricultural Knowledge Centre, has created an online forum to enable farm advisers to share knowledge, results and experiences to tackle pest control challenges and improve their Integrated Pest Management practices.



• Latest update on ENDURE scientific papers

The list of ENDURE papers accepted for publication in scientific journals has been updated. This year's papers cover topics such as multi-criteria assessment tools, landscape ecology, consumer willingness to pay for IPM, virulence dynamics of pathogens and deployment of host resistance, and biofumigation.



INRA programme cuts across borders

To reconcile environmental goals with efficient crop protection, research needs to broaden its scope along spatial, temporal and organisational dimensions. That is the challenge that INRA's new meta-programme Sustainable Management of Crop Health (SMaCH) is taking on. Olivier Le Gall (pictured right), who heads SMaCH, seeks to develop research on crop health that is more international and cuts across natural and human sciences.



• ENDURE and PURE in International Innovation

ENDURE and the FP7 Integrated Project PURE feature in the latest edition of International Innovation. Interviews with PURE Coordinator Françoise Lescourret and ENDURE participants Pierre Ricci, Antoine Messéan and Marco Barzman, address in everyday language the principles behind Integrated Pest Management, the current situation in plant protection in Europe and the bottlenecks and knowledge gaps impeding the reduction of reliance on pesticides.



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