

Information on PRI in Poland

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- Directive 2009/128/EC required the introduction of National Action Plans and mentioned harmonized indicators which were supposed to be included in Annex IV to the Directive.
- Poland assumed that harmonized indicators would be based on the HAIR project, whose last version was developed in 2011.
- In order to prepare for that Institute of Plant Protection- National Research Institute, Sońnicowice Branch was checking HAIR project as a part of our multi-annual program financed by Ministry of Agriculture. Unfortunately the results were disappointing. An analysis of the theory proved mistakes and also our attempts to run practical calculations failed mostly by software issues.
- In the meantime, to comply with the requirements of the Directive, in June of 2013, Poland published its National Action Plan to reduce the risk of pesticide use, which needed to address the issue of risk indicators. The document includes twelve topic areas, where potentially risk indicators could be used.

Currently the situation (progress) is as follows:

- There are more voices supporting the opinion that the work being done based on the HAIR project should be suspended, at least until any improvements / new developments are done to the project.
- While anticipating any developments with respect to the contents of Annex IV, Poland began working on developing its own risk indicators, based on the framework outlined in our NAP.
- Last year we came up with an indicator that could show the results of actions designed to improve food safety, which we are calling a "Risk Indicator of Excessive Pesticide Residue in Food" (<http://www.ior.gliwice.pl/docs/EPRIF.pdf>).

The indicator is based on the control and monitoring activities conducted in Poland with respect to pesticide residues in food, but it also takes into account the quality of pesticide testing results provided by different laboratories. It will be tested for the first time this year - we are now in the process of collecting and processing the necessary data

- Our plan is to develop a number of specific indicators in the areas indicated by the National Action Plan, namely:
 - indicator of underground and surface water contamination, based on monitoring conducted around the country.
 - indicator of correct application of pesticides based on the control and monitoring actions
 - indicator of the use and sale of pesticides, based on the studies regarding the sale and use of pesticides.
 - indicator of operator's safety.
- The two last indicators will be developed after the modifications in the nation-wide system of collecting the pesticides usage data and after the introduction of the anticipated obligatory (or recommended) in the European Union new model for calculating the exposure of operators.