
Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) No 283/2013. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

ANNEX

PART A

CHEMICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCES

SECTION 8

Ecotoxicological studies

Introduction

1. All available biological data and information which is relevant to the assessment of the ecotoxicological profile of the active substance shall be reported. This shall include all potentially adverse effects found during routine ecotoxicological investigations. Where required by the national competent authorities, additional studies, necessary to investigate the probable mechanisms involved and to assess the significance of these effects, shall be carried out and reported on.
2. The ecotoxicological assessment shall be based on the risk that the proposed active substance used in a plant protection product poses to non-target organisms. In carrying out a risk assessment, toxicity shall be compared with exposure. The general term for the output from such a comparison is 'risk quotient' or RQ. It shall be noted that RQ can be expressed in several ways, for example, toxicity:exposure ratio (TER) and as a hazard quotient (HQ). The applicant shall take into account the information from Sections 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8.
3. It may be necessary to conduct separate studies for metabolites, breakdown or reaction products derived from the active substance where non-target organisms may be exposed and where their effects cannot be evaluated by the available results relating to the active substance. Before such studies are performed, the applicant shall take into account the information from Sections 5, 6 and 7.

Studies undertaken shall permit characterisation of metabolites, breakdown or reaction products as being significant or not, and reflect the nature and extent of the effects judged likely to arise.

4. In the case of certain study types, the use of a representative plant protection product instead of the active substance as manufactured may be more appropriate, for example testing of non-target arthropods, bees, earthworm reproduction, soil micro-flora and non-target terrestrial plants. In the case of certain plant protection product types (for example encapsulated suspension) testing with the plant protection product is more appropriate to testing with active substance when these organisms will be exposed to the plant protection product itself. For plant protection products where the active substance is always intended to be used together with a safener and/or synergist and/or in conjunction with other active substances, plant protection products containing these additional substances shall be used.
5. The potential impact of the active substance on biodiversity and the ecosystem, including potential indirect effects via alteration of the food web, shall be considered.
6. For those guidelines which allow for the study to be designed to determine an effective concentration (EC_x), the study shall be conducted to determine an EC₁₀, EC₂₀ and EC₅₀, when required, along with corresponding 95 % confidence intervals. If an EC_x approach is used, a no observed effect concentration (NOEC) shall still be determined.

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Existing acceptable studies that have been designed to generate a NOEC shall not be repeated. An assessment of the statistical power of the NOEC derived from those studies shall be carried out.

7. All of the aquatic toxicity data shall be used when developing a proposal for environmental quality standards (Annual Average EQS, AA-EQS; Maximum Acceptable Concentration EQS, MAC-EQS). The methodology for derivation of these endpoints is outlined in the ‘Technical Guidance for Deriving Environmental Quality Standards⁽¹⁾’ for the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽²⁾.
8. In order to facilitate the assessment of the significance of test results obtained, including the estimation of intrinsic toxicity and the factors affecting toxicity, the same strain (or recorded origin) of each relevant species shall, where possible, be used in the various toxicity tests specified.
9. Higher tier studies shall be designed and data analysed using suitable statistical methods. Full details of the statistical methods shall be reported. Where appropriate and necessary, higher tier studies shall be supported by chemical analysis to verify exposure has occurred at an appropriate level.
10. Pending the validation and adoption of new studies and of a new risk assessment scheme, existing protocols shall be used to address the acute and chronic risk to bees, including those on colony survival and development, and the identification and measurement of relevant sub-lethal effects in the risk assessment.

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- (1) European Communities (2011) Publication ISBN: 978-92-79-16228-2.
- (2) [OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1.](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Signature words omitted by [S.I. 2019/556 reg. 21\(4\)](#)
- Annex Pt. A s. 8 word omitted by [S.I. 2019/556 reg. 21\(5\)\(b\)\(xiv\)](#)
- Annex Pt. A s. 1 point 1.4 word substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 176(2)(a)(i) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 61](#)
- Annex Pt. A s. 1 point 1.4.1 word substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 176(2)(b) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 61](#)
- Annex Pt. B s. 9 words omitted by [S.I. 2019/556 reg. 21\(5\)\(c\)\(vi\)](#)
- Art. 1(1) Art. 1 renumbered as Art. 1(1) by [S.I. 2019/556 reg. 21\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 1(2) inserted by [S.I. 2019/556 reg. 21\(2\)\(b\)](#)