



Cluster 6: Healthy plants roadmap

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Out of scope

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2.2.2 Risk assessment of new low-risk pesticides

Short description:

Concerns are mounting over the effects of pesticides on the environment, non-target organisms and human health. Member States and EU policies seek to reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides for crop protection through the design and implementation of approaches that are more integrated and restrictions on the use of several active substances currently used in pesticides.

In order to ensure the lowest risk to human health and the environment, the development of so-called low-risk substances is encouraged by several regulatory incentives in the EU. However, the changing nature of low-risk plant protection products requires increased capacities in risk assessment. The plant protection products approval and authorization process has to keep pace with scientific and technological developments to advance assessment methods of novel low-risk plant protection products.

Gap analysis:

This research need has not been addressed under previous framework programmes.

Targeted outcomes:

In the short and medium-term activities will contribute to

- Improve risk assessment of novel low-risk pesticides with e.g. the use of new approach methodologies.
- Assess/Improve the level of certainty in risk assessments of novel low-risk pesticides
- Develop and apply technologies and methodologies to obtain information from big data which are relevant for risk assessments
- Establish robust, transparent processes for the generation, storing, curating, and processing of the data
- Contribute to the standardization and validation of 'omics technologies for risk assessments

In the longer-term improved risk assessments will ensure the safety and efficacy of novel low-risk pesticides used in agriculture and reduce the risks to human and animal health, and to the environment.

Scope:

- New products may seek EU market regulatory approval, thus proposals will need to consider and address relevant EU regulatory requirements as well as EFSA guidance documents are to be followed for specific safety testing under risk assessment

