Working Group
“Pesticides & Beneficials”

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convenor 2018-

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Since 1980, standard guidelines to test the side-effects of pesticides on natural enemies, rearing methods for beneficial arthropods, comparison of results of laboratory, semi-field, field experiments and results of the joint programs to test the side-effects of pesticides on beneficial organisms have been published in the IOBC wprs Bulletin, the EPPO Bulletin, and various intl. scientific journals. The methods developed by the group have been accepted by the EU for use in the registration of pesticides. Validated and ring-tested methods have been published in 2000.

The results of testing the side-effects of about 140 pesticides on 20 beneficial organisms within the Joint Pesticide Testing Programs are being used world-wide by the extension services.
Recent Activities and Scientific Topics

11th, Chania 2016

12th, Zadar 2018
Sections of the WG meeting

• Databases on side-effects of PPPs
• Risk assessment from lab to field
• Mixtures of pesticides
• Natural enemies and pollinators / Pesticides and IPM for biocontrol and pollination service in fruit orchards
• Novel technologies: RNA-based biopesticides / GMO-effects on beneficial fauna
• ERA in different regions, West-East, North-South
• Microbial products / Effect of the insect microbiome, pesticide-detoxifying bacteria
• Biocontrol in practice: lessons in vectoring of BCOs and pathogens?
Outlook and challenges

• Database

• ERA for new “green” products, botanicals and microbial products, and mixtures?

• Support and encourage participation of scientists from counties with more agriculture and pesticide usage, as S-America, Africa, SE-Asia..

• Attract researchers from industry and NGOs..

• Traditionally a meeting for entomologists, attract experts in newer technologies, biotech for GMO, microbiology, and field ecology..

• Encourage cooperation within members of other WGs in methodology or research projects
Outlook and challenges

• Collect data from around the world on side-effects
• ERA from lab to field
• Use of modeling in ERA
• Beneficals, natural enemies and pollinators
• Joint publications and project with WG members; maybe on RNA-based biocontrol products and microbial BCAs
• Active meetings with new young participants; student support/awards
• Next meeting, in 2020 or 2021?
• ..
For more connection ... we have now our own facebook page: IOBC WG “Pesticides & Beneficials” to find (back) friends/colleagues, share papers, voice your opinion, start debate or questionnaire, organize parties and more..
Thank you

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