



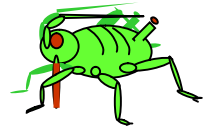
IOBC Council-Convenor Meeting

Agadir, 2009

Commission on Harmonised Regulation of Invertebrate Biocontrol Agents (CHIBCA)

Jeff Bale

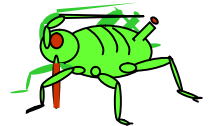
University of Birmingham, UK





IOBC Council-Convenor Meeting

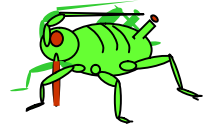
- History of CHIBCA 2004-5
- EU REBECA project
- CHIBCA 2008 – 2010
- Looking forward



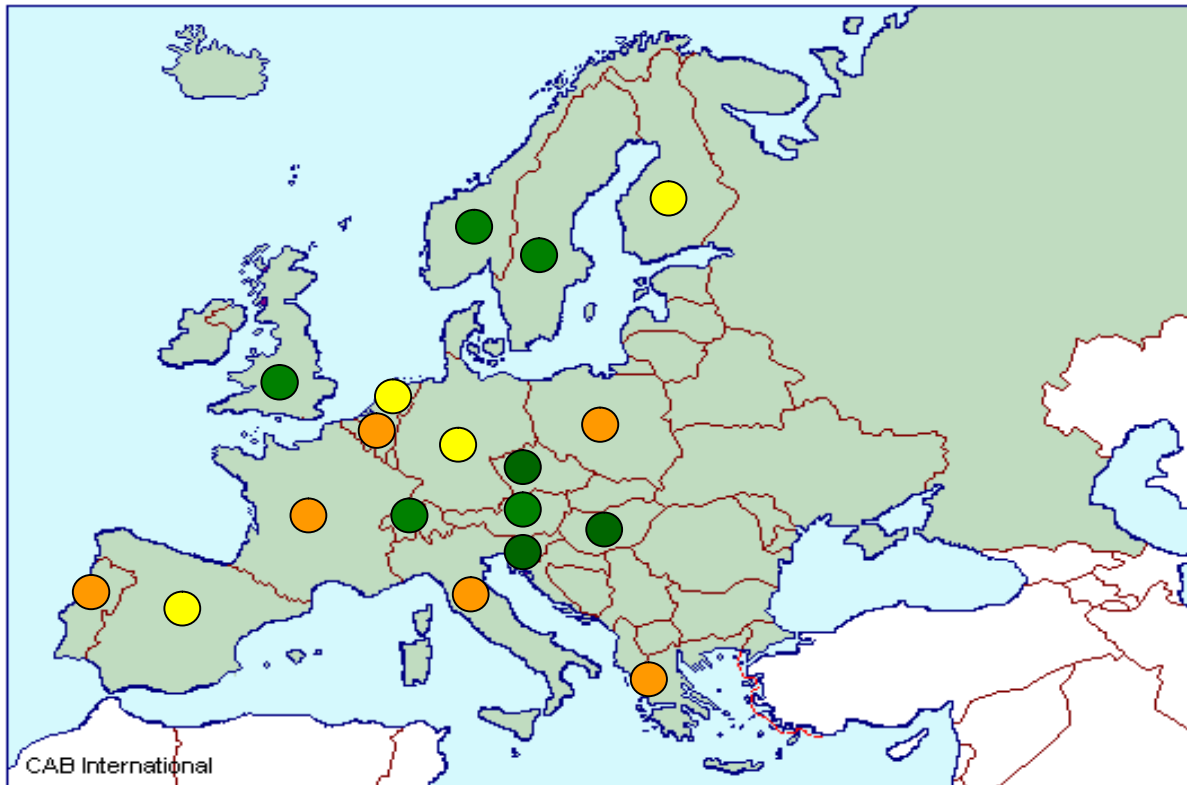


Invertebrates, Microbes, Botanicals and Semiochemicals

- Fundamental difference in regulation between groups of agents
- Microbes, Botanicals and Semiochemicals regulated by EU directive 91/414 – consistent across Europe, but can have expensive regulatory costs in some countries
- Invertebrate BCAs – no EU directive, and variable regulatory policy in different countries
- Relative success of invertebrate BCAs attributable to absence of coordinated ‘EU directive-based’ regulation – but ‘country-specific’ legislation causes problems



Regulation of Invertebrate BCAs in Europe



● Implemented (9)

● In preparation (4)

● No regulation (6)





What needs to be harmonised?

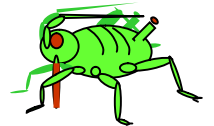
- Previous guidelines (FAO, EPPO, OECD):
achieved by CHIBCA 2004-5
- Information required in dossiers in EU countries *which have* regulation:
documents produced by EU REBECA project
- Consistent regulation across whole of EU/EPPO/IOBC-WPRS region:
CHIBCA 2008 and beyond





History of CHIBCA 2004-5

- Commission approved in 2003
- Agreed to focus on invertebrates
- Meetings of industry, regulators and scientists held in 2004-5
- Produced a harmonisation of previous FAO, EPPO and OECD guidelines in a published article



Harmonising of existing guidelines

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Review Article

Guidelines on information requirements for import and release of invertebrate biological control agents in European countries¹

F. Bigler^{a*}, J. S. Bale^b, M. J. W. Cock^c, H. Dreyer^d, R. Greatrex^e, U. Kuhlmann^f, A. J. M. Loomans^g and J. C. van Lenteren^h

^aAgroscope FAL Reckenholz, Swiss Federal Research Station for Agroecology and Agriculture, 8046 Zürich, Switzerland. ^bUniversity of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK. ^cCABI Bioscience Switzerland Centre, 2800 Delémont, Switzerland. ^dSwiss Federal Office of Agriculture, 3003 Bern, Switzerland. ^eSyngenta Bioline, Holland Road, Little Clacton, Essex CO16 9QG, UK. ^fPlant Protection Service, P. O. Box 9102, 6700 HC Wageningen, The Netherlands. ^gLaboratory of Entomology, Wageningen University, P. O. Box 8031, 6700 EH Wageningen, The Netherlands.

*Author for correspondence: franz.bigler@fal.admin.ch

Keywords: authorization; biocontrol safety; nontarget effects; regulation; risk assessment

Abstract

Several international documents have been published in recent years with the objective of providing guidance to industry, biocontrol practitioners and competent national regulatory authorities on the regulatory framework for the import and release of invertebrate biological control agents (IBCA). As the scope and the level of detail given in these documents were diverse in many respects, it has been difficult for all stakeholders to apply such guidelines, and to integrate them in a harmonized way into national regulatory documents. At the request of several stakeholders, the International Organization for Biological Control of Noxious Animals and Plants/West Palearctic Regional Section (IOBC/WPRS) organized an initiative with the objective of merging all relevant international documents into one document, to provide more specific guidance, and to harmonize the regulation of IBAs in European countries and in other countries of the IOBC/WPRS. This document consists of five sections which together form comprehensive guidelines specifying the information required for regulating import and release of IBAs.

- Commission on harmonisation of invertebrate biocontrol agents (CHIBCA)
- Merged previous documents of FAO, EPPO and OECD
- Guidelines produced by representatives of industry, regulatory bodies and science

See Bigler *et al.*, *Biocontrol News and Information* **26**, 2005



Regulation of Biological Control Agents



Key Aim: Develop a balanced regulatory system that minimizes the costs imposed on industry without compromising risks to human health or the environment

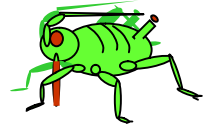
www.rebeca-net.de

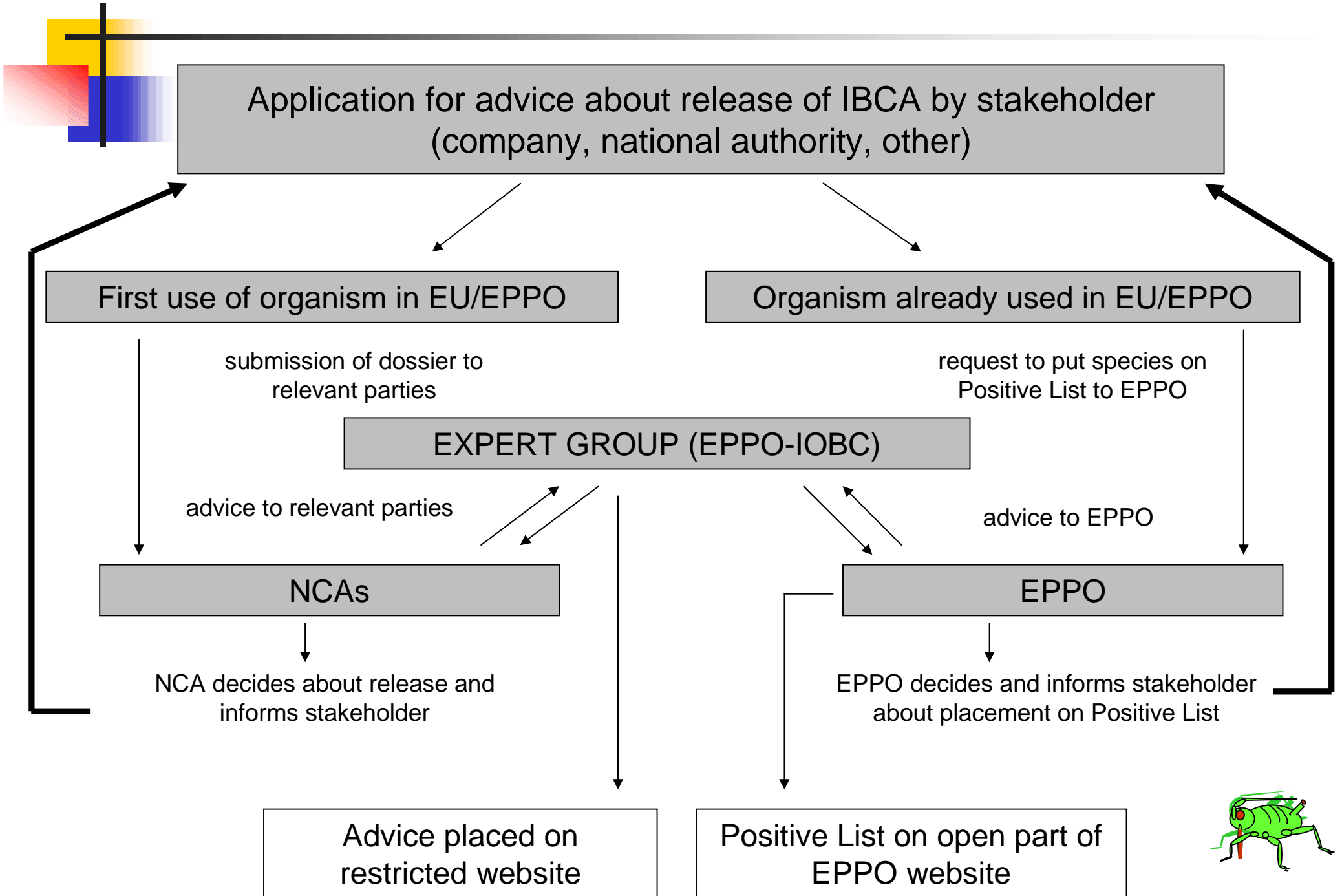




REBECA: Activities, Achievements and Recommendations

- Compared EU regulatory systems with USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand
- Produced a standardised 'Permit Application' form
- Written an accompanying 'Guidance Document'
- Devised hierarchical ERA with details of methods
- Made recommendations for updating EPPO Positive List
- Set out options for implementing a balanced regulatory system in Europe, including an EPPO-IOBC Expert Group

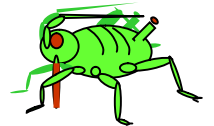






CHIBCA: 2007 forward plan

- Act as 'IOBC contact point' in EPPO-IOBC Joint Panel (Expert Group) and nominate IOBC representatives
- Review and update EPPO 'Positive List' of 'safe' species
- Explore ability of Joint Panel to provide advice on 'First Releases'
- Liaise with EU/EPPO/IOBC-WPRS 'member states' to promote 'standard forms' for licence applications
- Translate forms into national languages
- Establish database of national regulators





CHIBCA: Progress on 2007 plan

- EPPO-IOBC Joint Panel established: meetings held in Wageningen (2008), Engelberg (2009) – next meeting Valencia (2010) – full reports on IOBC-WPRS CHIBCA website
- EPPO 2002 ‘Positive List’ reviewed and updated – some species deleted from original list, new species added
- Criteria for additions and deletions reviewed and updated
- New Appendix (III) created – species deleted from Positive List with reasons





CHIBCA: Progress on 2007 plan

- EPPO likely to 'badge' Standard Application forms' for licence applications as 'EPPO documents' - wide coverage in EPPO and IOBC-WPRS regions
- EPPO can translate documents into national languages – wider take up
- EPPO-IOBC Joint Panel unlikely to provide advice on 'First Releases' – not the role of EPPO Panels – have to explore other options
- Proposal for a workshop with national regulators and industry (in conjunction with Joint Panel meeting) to discuss likely need and demand for 'First Release' advice
- Workshop provides opportunity to establish database of national regulators





CHIBCA: Looking Forward

- Third meeting in Valencia, March 2010 – assessment of workload
- Positive List will require regular updating – feasible by electronic communication?
- Progressive withdrawal of pesticides creates challenge and opportunity for biocontrol – new licence applications
- ERA of new releases essential – can NCAs do this?
- Is there a need for an ‘independent’ advisory service for new releases? Consultation with NCA regulators and industry
- Could IOBC-WPRS provide this service?

