

Non Target Organisms Field

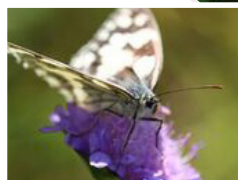
Welcome To Eurofins Agrosience Services

The EU directive 1107/2009 (formerly directive 91/414) requires scientific proof that plant protection products (PPPs) pose no threat to the environment. Therefore, ecotoxicological studies are required to prove that there are no unacceptable risks to the environment.

Eurofins Agrosience Services offers a wide range of higher TIER studies. Ecotoxicological field studies are necessary to evaluate the possible impacts of PPPs in a natural environment. The studies are conducted with non-vertebrates and wildlife. The non-vertebrates tested are mainly non-target arthropods that represent no pest to a particular crop. This group is very diverse, with members providing ecosystem services such as pest control and pollination. The field studies are conducted where species occur naturally at the field site. The focus of these studies can be either on a selected group or on the community. Eurofins Agrosience Services has considerable experience with these studies and has conducted them across all regions of Europe. Because of our experience we are routinely involved in guidance document development (i.e. EPFES, PERAS, ESCORT 2 and 3).

Predatory mite studies in orchards and vineyards

Predatory mite trials in orchards and vineyards are highly standardized field studies. They are used to evaluate short and long-term effects of PPPs on abundance of predatory mites. The studies are performed in accordance with the most recent guidelines (BLÜMEL et al., 2000).



Non-target arthropod field studies (NTA) in-crop and off-crop

Eurofins Agrosience Services have performed arthropod field studies in orchards and in arable crops since 1999 throughout Europe. Trial designs are in line with the relevant guideline (ESCORT 3, CANDOLFI *et al.* 2000, DE JONG *et al.* 2010) and can be adapted to your specific requirements. We participate in international working groups relevant for the field studies. The methodology for off-crop studies is subject to a constant process of development. In the same way our experiences in the field and in the analysis of the resulting data is evolving continuously.

Residue studies for risk assessment for birds and mammals

The EFSA guidance document (Risk assessment for Birds and Mammals, December 2009) replaces SANCO guideline (4145/2000) and is used to calculate residue levels and exposure in food items for birds and mammals. We can perform arthropod and plant residue studies to support the registration of PPPs. In addition we can perform inventories of birds and small mammals in the relevant crop. We are able to offer studies in all three regulatory relevant climatic zones in Europe.

Determination services

The identification of the specimens is a key part of a study. Determination work needs to be performed as quickly as possible in order to present the results of the study in advance of the next season. The identification is performed to the lowest taxonomical level possible, but within the limits of feasibility.

In house we can identify all main arthropod and annelid (worms) taxa. Our taxonomy experts are housed within the ecotox field groups at Eurofins Agrosience Services Ecotox GmbH in Niefern-Oeschelbronn (Germany) and at Eurofins MITAX B.V. Services in Amsterdam (NL). The main lab for identification is located in Amsterdam.

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The Agrosience Group offers unparalleled expertise to the crop protection industry; with over 750 staff globally and more than 80 fully owned facilities across 25 countries, we are committed to developing and growing in order to meet the needs of the Agrosience industry.

Eurofins Agrosience Services Group

easinfo@eurofins.com
www.eurofins.com/agrosienceservices

