

Implementation of Best Management Practices can strongly reduce losses of Plant Protection Products to water.



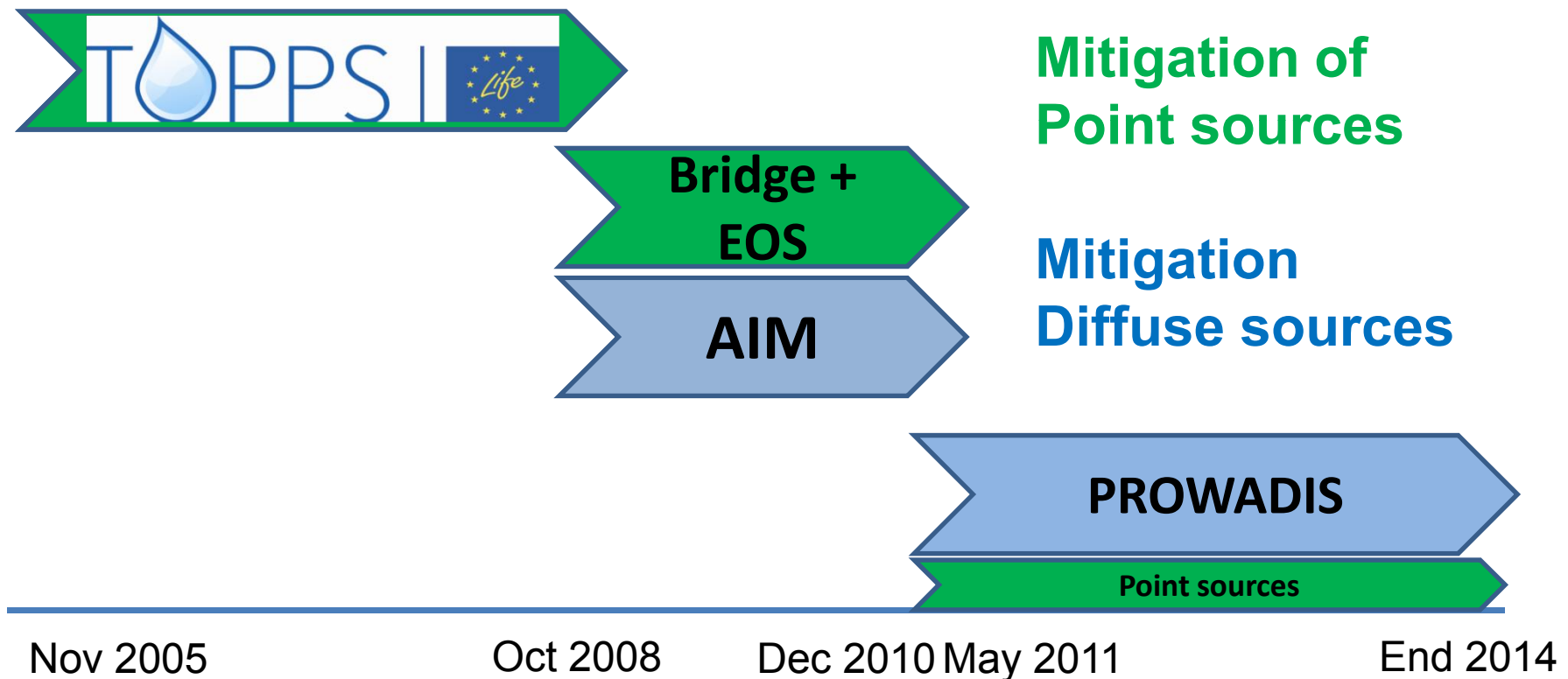
## Outline

- 💧 About TOPPS
- 💧 Legal frame
- 💧 Significance of entry routes
- 💧 Point sources
- 💧 Runoff / erosion
- 💧 Spray drift

# TOPPS projects landscape

TOPPS projects are running now for 9 years

**T**rain **O**perators **P**romote best **P**ractices & **S**ustainability





# TOPPS – outreach - EU

	POINT SOURCES			DIFFUSE SOURCES
	TOPPS life	TOPPS extension	TOPPS-EOS	TOPPS prowadis
Austria				
Belgium				
Bulgaria				
Croatia				
Cyprus				
Czech Republic				
Denmark				
Estonia				
Finland				
France				
Germany				
Greece				
Hungary				
Ireland				
Italy				
Latvia				
Lithuania				
Luxembourg				
Malta				
Netherlands				
Poland				
Portugal				
Romania				
Slovakia				
Slovenia				
Spain				
Sweden				
United Kingdom				

## TOPPS – point sources

BMPs / Materials developed europe wide (23 countries)

## TOPPS – EOS

Environmantally optimized sprayers  
Expert information tool.

## TOPPS-prowadis

7 countries  
Common EU BMPs + materials developed

## TOPPS water protection (plans)

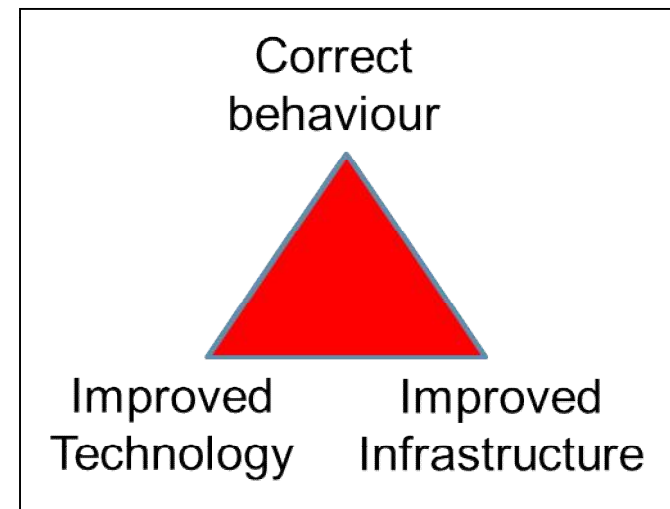
Intensify dissemination and expand TOPPS prowadis to more countries



## Water is a key resource to keep clean by reducing entry from contamination sources

- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Human and animal waste
- Plastics and heavy metals
- Other manmade and natural chemicals

Most losses of PPPs to water can be prevented by using a framework of Best Management Practice (BMP)





## Legal framework to protect water in EU

Water is not a commercial product like any other but, rather, a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such ...

(Excerpt from the recitals to the European Water Framework Directive).

### Water Framework Directive

- Ground water
- Surface water
- Marine water

### Regulation of Plant Protection Products

- Access to Market
- Hazard reduction
- Risk assessment

### Directive on Sustainable Use of Pesticides

- Focus on use phase
- Sales & training
- Risk reduction



## Threshold values for PPPs in drinking water and the protection of aquatic organisms are extremely low



For example, spilling just 1 g of active ingredient into water exceeds the drinking water threshold of 0,1  $\mu\text{g/L}$ , *unless* mixed in a ditch:

- 1 m wide
- 30 cm deep
- 33 km long

## Stakeholder Perception study winter 2011 / 2012

### PROBLEM: POLLUTANTS

If you consider surface water pollution originating from agriculture, what would you consider the main problem ? (rank in order of importance 1= most important....5 = least important (only respondents with correct ranking)

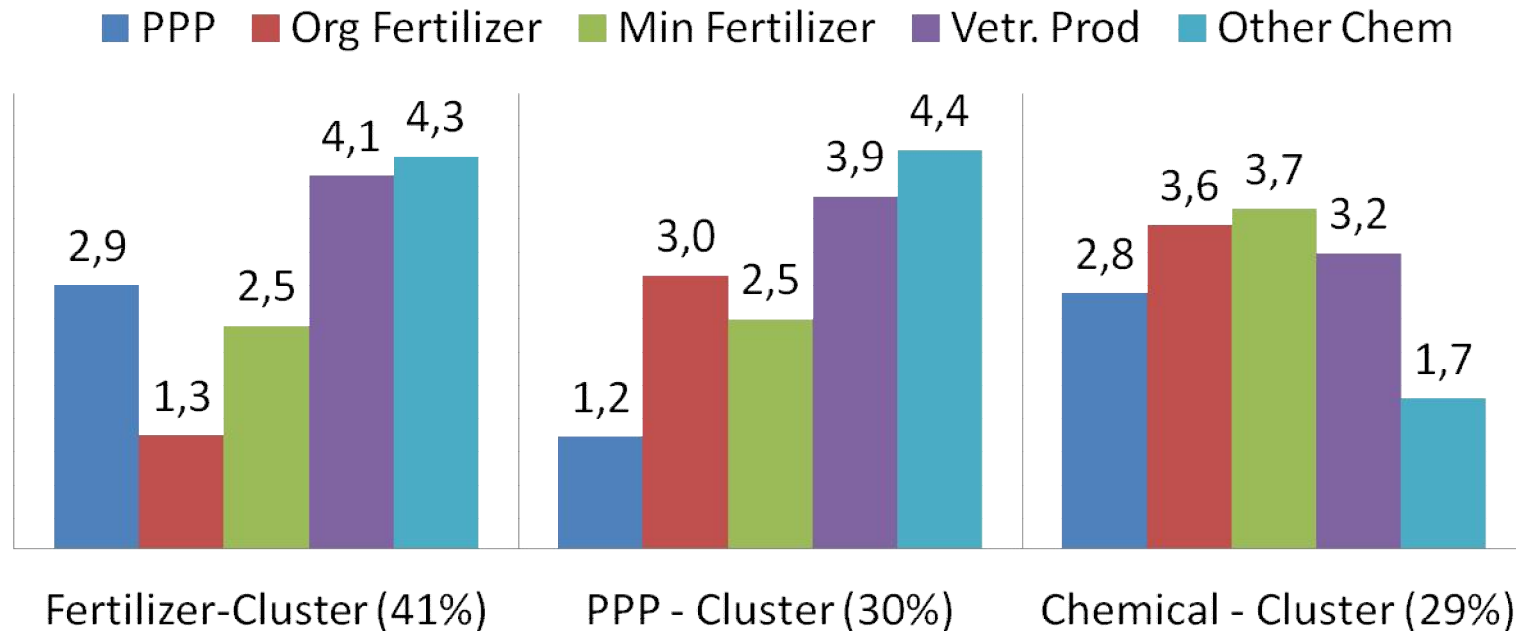
Average ranks on the main problems for surface water pollution – top three								
Country	BE	DE	DK	ES	FR	IT	PL	all
PPP	2,2	3,0	2,2	2,6	1,6	2,3	2,2	2,4
Org- Fertilizer	3,0	1,9	2,2	2,2	3,3	2,4	2,6	2,5
Min. - Fertilizer	2,8	3,1		2,4	3,0	2,7	2,3	2,8
Vetproducts			3,3			2,7		3,8
Other Chem					3,3			3,6
n	62	80	49	59	43	52	46	391

- PPP and organic fertilizer considered main water pollution problem
- Most divers perception on PPP between FR and DE



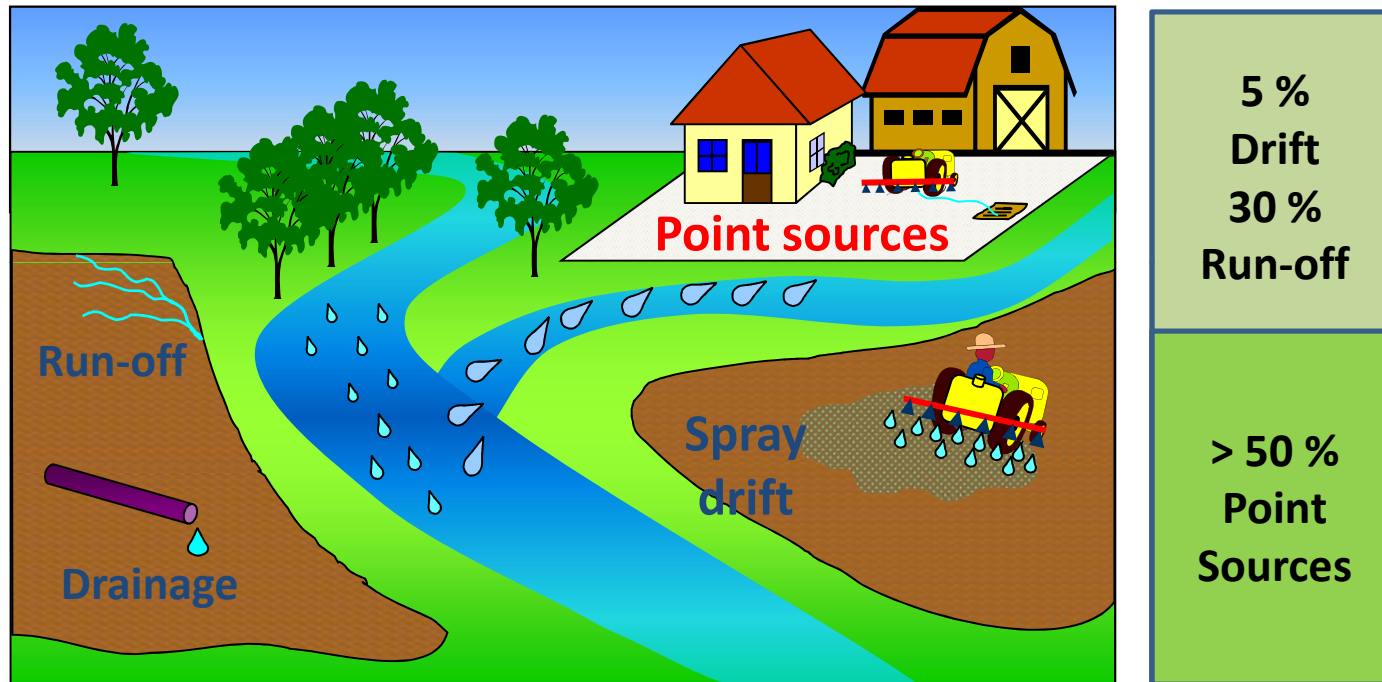
## Cluster analysis separates three different groups of respondents in their evaluation of main water pollutants

Average ranks in clusters (1 most important .... 5 least important)





## Which sources of pesticide get into surface water & by how much?



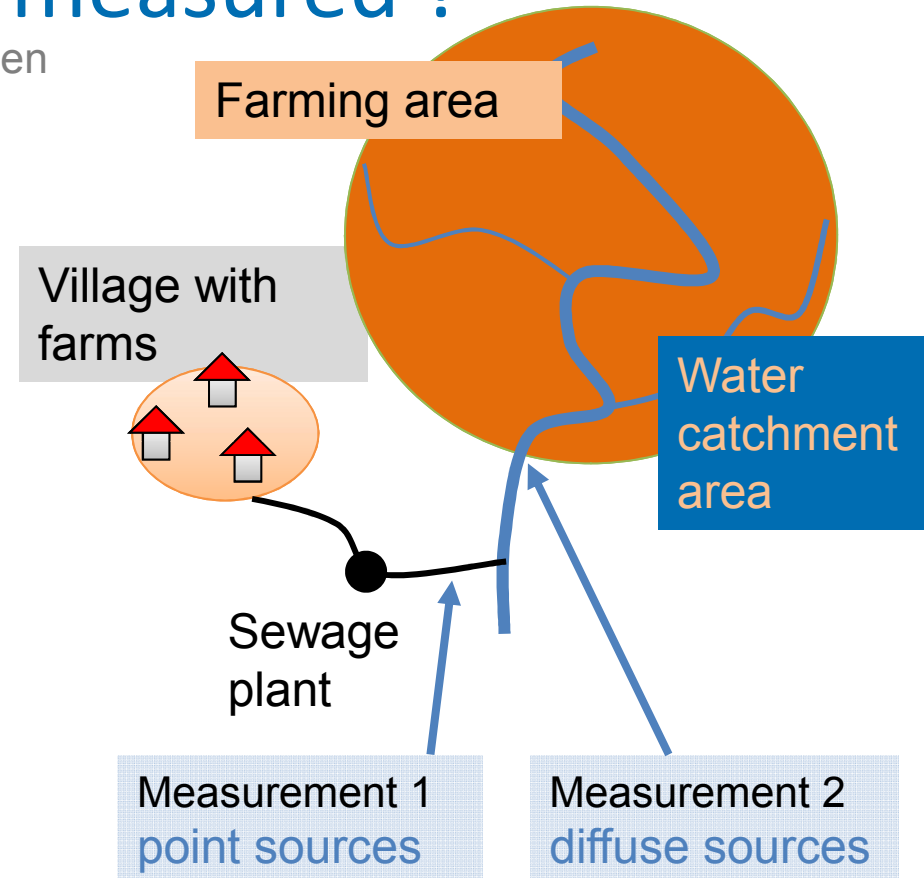
**Most point source releases of PPPs can be prevented!**

# How are point sources measured ?

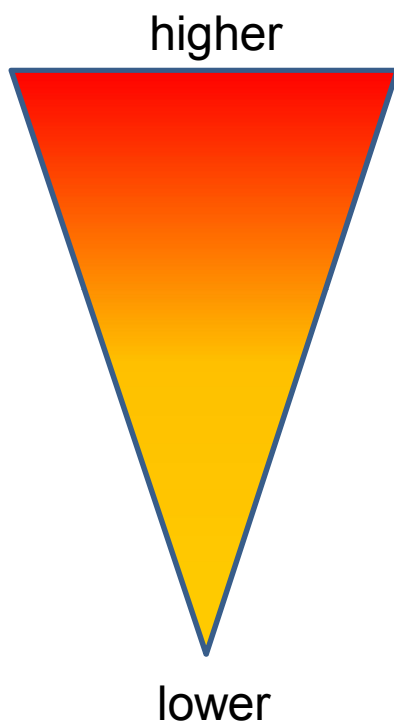
Frede *et al.* 2006, TOPPS-Forum; Univ Giessen



- ▶ **Waiste water of village farms in community sewage plant.**
- ▶ **Measurement point 1 measures PPP pollution from farmyards (point sources).**
- ▶ **Measurement point 2 measures PPP pollution from the field (diffuse sources).**

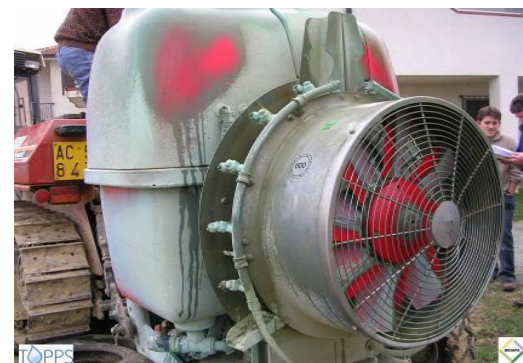


Not many countries have generated results on point source significance



## Key Risks

- **Sprayer cleaning**
- **Mixing and loading**
- **Remnant management**
- **Empty container disposal**
- Transport to the field
- Farm pesticide storage
- Transport to the farm





# Reduce PPP losses from diffuse sources Runoff / Erosion

## Key factors influencing runoff

### What we cannot directly influence

Weather

Soil characteristics

Form of the landscape

### What we can influence

Field sizes

Crops grown

Cultivation practices

Land management

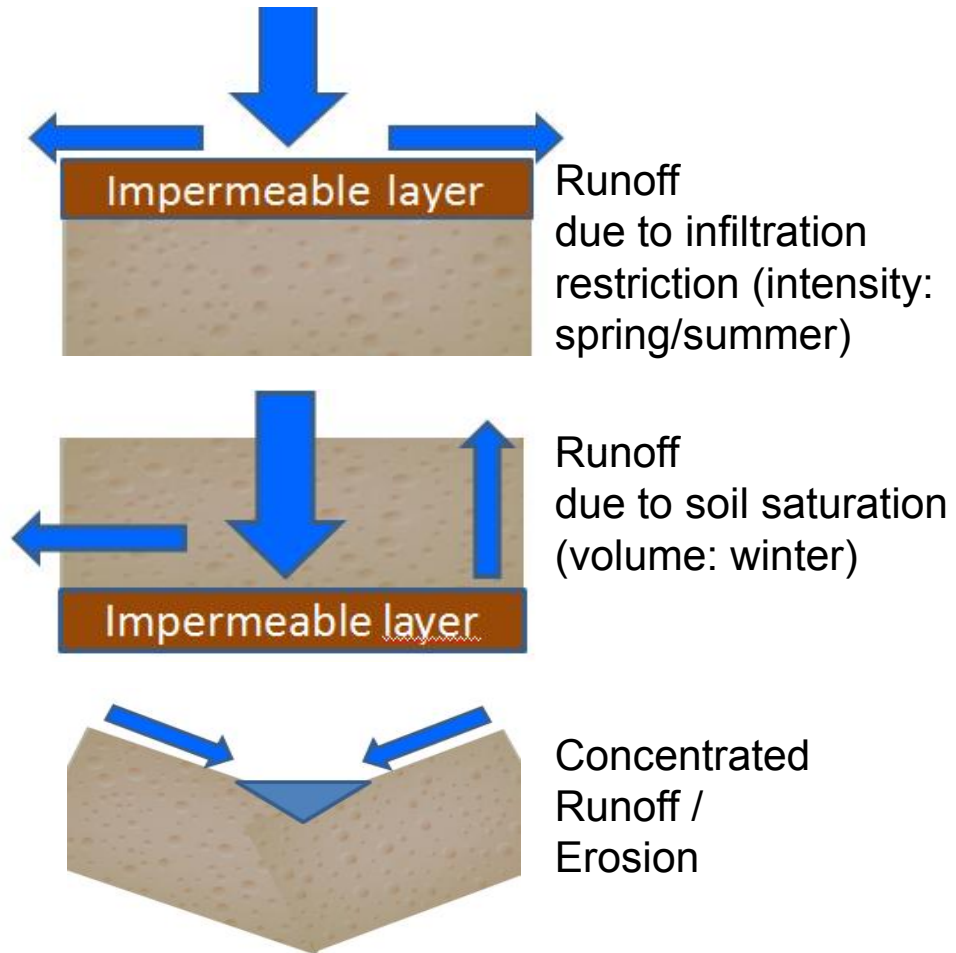
PPP - application





# Diagnosis of runoff risk determines mitigation measures

## 3 Situations to be distinguished





# 1. Prevent runoff at source

## In the field mitigation measures

### Increase water infiltration

- *reduce tillage*
- *break soil compaction*
- *more organic matter*
- *stabilize soil aggregates*

### Slow down water flow

- *rough seedbed / bunds*
- *cover soil with materials*
- *manage tramlines*
- *work across the slope*
- *use infield buffers*

### Utilize the water

- *grow intermediary crops*





## 2. Prevent runoff reaching surface water

### Out of the field mitigation measures

#### Increase water infiltration and capture soil particles

- *implement vegetative buffers*  
*grass buffers*  
*grass + hedges*
- *optimize crop rotation and use variety of crops as buffer (row crops + broadcast crops)*
- *built fascines to disperse the water*
- *optimize field size*
- *organise crop rotation also in the landscape*
- *Build bunds*
- *build terraces*





# 3. Keep runoff water in the catchment

## In catchment mitigation measures

### Build retention structures

- *Develop natural wetlands (Water infiltration, water evaporation, PPP - degradation)*
- *Use vegetated ditch to collect runoff water (outlet control)*
- *Develop artificial wetlands*

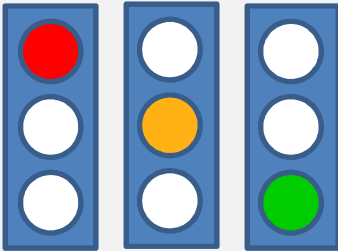




# Best Management Practice reduce the risk of PPP transfer to water through runoff / erosion

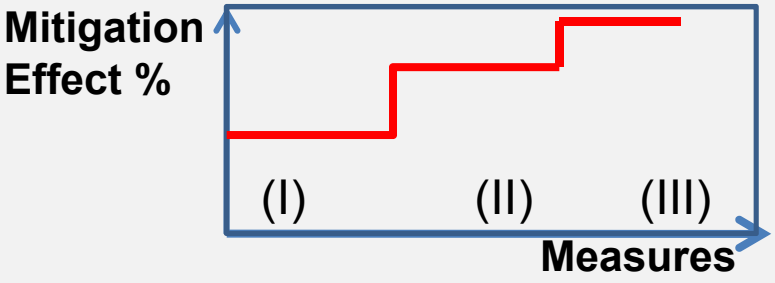
**Step 1**  
**Risk diagnosis**

TOPPS - dashboards




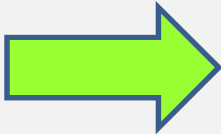

**Step 2**  
**Select effective measures**

TOPPS  
Mitigation measures toolbox



**Step 3**  
**Implement BMPs**

Diagnosis +  
Measures

from  to  



# Reduce PPP losses from diffuse sources

## Spray drift

indirect influence

### Key factors

- Wind speed
- Wind direction
- Temperature
- Air humidity
- Proximity to water
- Proximity sensitive area
- **Crop treated**
- **Adjacent vegetation**
- **Droplet size**
- **Application technique**
- **Adjustment of sprayers**

direct influence





## Key recommendations to manage spray drift in field applications

- Droplet size  
reduce amount of fine droplets
- Boom height  
the lower the better  $\leq 50\text{cm}$
- Driving speed  
keep speed along  
sensitive areas  $< 8\text{ km/h}$
- Sprayer with air support  
(bare soil !)







# Understand more about drift risks and drift reduction

[www.TOPPS-drift.org](http://www.TOPPS-drift.org)

Field crops / Orchards / Vine – 8 languages  
Education and awareness



**... We have means for the cloud to disappear**





## Water protection starts in the minds of people





## Thank you for the attention

I would like to acknowledge all contribution from the  
TOPPS- prowadis partners

Univ. Cordoba, ES  
Univ. Polytech Catalonia,  
Barcelona, ES  
Univ Turin (Deiafa), IT  
Univ. Turin Agroselviter IT  
Irstea , Lyon FR  
Arvalis Inst du Vegetal,  
Boigneville FR  
Inst. francaise du vigne et du  
vin, Grau du Roi , FR

Julius Kühn Inst.  
Braunschweig, DE  
Bavarian State Res Inst.  
Freising, DE  
InAgro, Rumbeke , BE  
Danish Agric.Advisory  
Service,Aarhus, DK  
InHort, Skierniewice ,PL  
Nat.Env. Inst ,Warsaw, PL  
Experts from ECPA