

## Definitions

**Point Source** = In the context of TOPPS, includes any spills of concentrated or diluted PPP during transport, storage, filling, spraying, cleaning management of residual spray and maintenance. In particular it includes use or handling in areas not covered by approved label recommendations for spraying or guidance/codes of practice for correct filling, cleaning or disposal.

Furthermore, it also includes uncontrolled release of excessive amount of PPP during treatment (overdosing). Excessive can be in relation to the amount of PPP per unit of area or in relation to the concentration.

( Large scale spills are usually linked to accidents in production plants and distribution centres of PPPs, however these are very rare. On the other hand spills on the farm are more common and may easily impair drinking water resources. A 4 kg spill into a river flowing at 40m<sup>3</sup>/s (rather important) river can produce a peak of 10 times the drinking water standard.)

Examples of point sources may include spillage of concentrated or dilute spray from container at any time such as while mixing, from inversion of empty containers, from sprayer washings or during remnant disposal or due to poor sprayer/nozzle maintenance, which can also lead to overdosing. Poor field practice eg over-spraying ditches, non compliance with buffer zones to reduce unwanted spray drift, spraying when stationary or when turning causing overdosing, or even poor planning of spray operations leading to tractors driving over sprayed areas before leaving the field and then contaminating road eg via mud on the wheels.

**Diffuse source** = In the context of TOPPS this is mainly related to undesired movement of PPPs in soil, water or air following application on crops and within areas agreed for use according to approved label recommendations.

Examples of diffuse sources may include leaching, drainage, soil erosion and/or run off, following approved field application, due to exceptional weather conditions.