TOPPS

Concept & Achievements

TOPPS stakeholder workshop
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TOPPS - Water Protection projects
13 years with about 7 mio € investments

ECPA + EU funding
- 15 EU MSs
- Point source BMPs

Bridge + EOS
AIM
- 9 EU MSs
- Sprayer configuration

TOPPS extension
- 12 EU MSs
- Drainage/leaching BMPs
- TOPPS- Academy

Point sources
Diffuse sources

2005 2008 2011 2015 2018

Train Operators to Promote best Practices & Sustainability
TOPPS develops Best Management Practices (BMPs) and tools to protect water with European partners.

Special technical and local expertise

Complementary skills
From farm advice to Science

Development of local water protection competences
TOPPS - Focus on water protection BMPs and dissemination

BMPs = Diagnosis + Measures

- BMP – development follow the strategic triangle
- Most important is the operator
- Technologies and infrastructure are enablers for risk reduction

EACH STEP IN THE CROP PROTECTION PROCESS OFFERS MEASURES TO REDUCE RISK
TOPPS – BMPs now cover the main PPP entry routes into water

- Point sources
- Runoff / Erosion
- Spray drift
- Drainage and Leaching

- References in NAP’s
- Used in trainings
- Consistent recommendations
- Broad acceptance in EU
TOPPS – Dissemination

Direct face to face interaction:

Theory + Practice
Trainings/Presentations

Up to now
78 T Farmers / Advicers
10 T by local sponsors
with TOPPS partners
Indirect interaction:

Publications > 500
Decision tools, Pictures, Videos
Local + central websites, Online tools
Emmission scan (online point source checklist)

www.TOPPS-life.org
www.TOPPS-drift.org
www.TOPPS-eos.org
yearly visits of 80T
New cooperation with CEMA
www.STEP-water.org

http://www.topps.unito.it/
TOPPS increased awareness for water protection but implementation remains the challenge!

Implementation of measures means:

- additional investment in time and/or money for the operator
- supported through competent advice (along the whole process)
- incentives on measures implemented
- constructive cooperation among stakeholders

... what makes a training effective?
TOPPS highlights the significance of the entry routes of pesticides to water.

- Perception often does not reflect these facts.
- If problems are identified, then solutions can be found!
Conclusions

Pesticide losses to water can...

- largely be **avoided for point sources**
- and **significantly reduced for diffuse sources**

Correct behaviour of the operator is essential:

- Access to (TOPPS) BMPs and advice from competent advisors
- Improved technological solutions and infrastructure often necessary
We would like to acknowledge the support of the EU Life programme for the launch and initial funding of the TOPPS project, and the expert input and contributions of the TOPPS project partners.

*Thanks for your attention*