Reaching out to farmers and disseminators
Examples from Belgium

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Brussels, 14 November 2018
Outline

• Dissemination to farmers
• Dissemination to disseminators
• Fyteauscan
• Conclusion
• Challenges
Dissemination to farmers

• **Presentations in farmers trainings**
  
  • To maintain the spraying licence, farmers have to follow 4 trainings in 6 years in Belgium
  
  • Trainings can be organised by farmers unions, research centres, PPP distributors, ... 
  
  • Content of these trainings must be approved by the government
  
  • TOPPS materials on prevention of point source pollution, drift reduction and reduction of runoff and erosion are approved materials for these trainings
Dissemination to farmers

• Presentations in farmers trainings
Dissemination to farmers

• Demonstrations in farmer trainings

Drift reducing nozzles

Standard flat fan nozzles
Not drift reducing
• Demonstrations in farmer trainings
• **TOPPS water protection days**
  
  – In collaboration with different partners with close link with the target group

  – Content:
    
    • Small theoretical part
    
    • Workshops on prevention of point pollution on the farm and drift and/or runoff and erosion of PPP in the field
TOPPS water protection day for fruit growers, Meigem
Workshop ‘build your own biofilter’
- Biofilter is a remnant water purification system
- Self-construction by farmers is allowed in Belgium
- Manual and construction video
- Workshops at Inagro with DIY-kit

Film construction biofilter (Dutch): https://vimeo.com/117915756
Workshop ‘Build you own biofilter’, Inagro
Dissemination to stakeholders

*TOPPS water protection days* for teachers

- Organisation together with the association of agricultural teachers and Phytofar

- Content:
  - Theoretical part with presentations
  - Workshops on prevention of point pollution, drift and runoff and erosion of PPP on the field

- Aim: further dissemination to young farmers
TOPPS water protection day for agricultural teachers
Dissemination to stakeholders

• Water protection day’ for constructors of sprayers
  - Organisation together with pcfruit
  - Content:
    • Presentations on sprayer devices to reduce point pollution
    • Discussions and workshops on sprayers settings and drift reduction
  - Aim: further dissemination to farmers while selling sprayers
Dissemination to stakeholders

• **TOPPS actions for PPP distribution**
  – **TOPPS water protection days**
    • Workshops with demonstration of measures to reduce point pollution, drift and runoff and erosion of PPP
  – **Information meetings**
    • In collaboration with ‘Watergroep’
    • In depth training on the problem of PPP in water resources, the consequences for legislation and overview of TOPPS materials on measures
    • Visit of the water production centre
  – **Aim:** in depth training and further dissemination to farmers
TOPPS meetings for PPP distribution in the water production centre in Zillebeke
Dissemination to stakeholders

• ‘TOPPS water protection days’ for water companies and water policy makers
  • In collaboration with Phytofar and government
  • Content:
    – Presentations on PPP in watersources, measures and projects to prevent water pollution and requirements for PPP approval
    – Workshops with demonstration of measures to reduce point pollution, drift and run off and erosion of PPP
  • Aim: Presentation of measures to prevent water pollution, which may be taken by farmers
TOPPS water protection day for water policy makers, Huldenberg
Webtool to estimate the risks on point source pollution on the farmyard with recommandations for farmers to reduce point pollution

www.fyteauscan.be
Fyteauscan Vlaanderen

Uitwendig reinigen
Reinigt u uw sputtoestel uitwendig?
- Neen
- Ja

Volgende vraag

1. Opslag van gewasbeschermingsmiddelen
2. Sputtoestellen op uw bedrijf
3. Vulen
4. Inwendig reinigen
5. Uitwendig reinigen
6. Wegzetten van het sputtoestel
7. Andere machines in contact met gewasbeschermingsmiddelen
8. Andere types water belast met gewasbeschermingsmiddelen
### Uitwendig reinigen

Waar reinigt u uw spuitstoel uiteindelijk?

- Ik reinig mijn spuitstoel op een verhard deel van mijn bedrijf zonder opvang van het reinigingswater.

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**LET OP!** Het is verboden om reinigingswater van het spuitstoel te kozen. Dit bevat gewasbeschermingsmiddelen. De uitwendige reiniging van het spuitstoel mag enkel op een verhard oppervlak of op een vuil en sloophandelplek plaatsvinden met opvang van reinigingswater die wordt uitgevoerd. Het opgevangen reinigingswater moet worden gecuekt met een zuiveringsysteem zoals een biolifter, Hellosec®, fytobak/Phytobac®, Sentinelle®,...

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| **1** | Opslag van gewasbeschermingsmiddelen |
| **2** | Spuittoestellen op uw bedrijf |
| **3** | Vullen |
| **4** | Inwendig reinigen |
| **5** | Uitwendig reinigen |
| **6** | Wegzetten van het spuitstoel |
| **7** | Andere machines in contact met gewasbeschermingsmiddelen |
| **8** | Andere types water belast met gewasbeschermingsmiddelen |
Main advantages:
- Personal advise for farmers
- New way to bring point pollution to the attention again
Presence on agricultural fairs

Agro expo Roeselare

Werktuigdagen Oudenaarde
Conclusions

• Thanks to 13 years of TOPPS, sources of water pollutions by PPP and measures to prevent this pollution is very often brought to the attention
• Spraying licence has improved this process
• Seeing is believing!

⇒ Awareness of farmers and stakeholders has been raised
⇒ Stakeholder (f.e. farmer associations, water companies, PPP distribution, ...) involvement has increased. Many stakeholders help to spread the TOPPS message.
Challenges for dissemination

• **Creativity and originality** to bring the TOPPS message to the attention again

• **Stimulate farmers to take more action in the field**
  - Farmer advice on how to do in practice?
  - Economic incentives for farmers for costly measures?

• **Try to reach and convince all farmers**
  - Creating ownership of the problem?
  - Peer to peer learning/working groups?
  - Focus on influencers?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Questions?

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