

# Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products (SUR)

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European Union



# Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy: 2 key pesticide reduction targets by 2030



Reduce by 50% the overall use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030

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Reduce use by 50% of more hazardous pesticides by 2030



## SUR - key new features



- ✓ Regulation – directly binding and uniformly applicable to all Member States



- ✓ Legally binding targets: 50% reduction in the use and risk of chemical pesticides and use of more hazardous by 2030



- ✓ Streamlined National Action Plans (NAPs) and annual reporting that support the legally binding targets



- ✓ Environmentally friendly pest control ensuring all farmers practice Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in which chemical pesticides are used only as a last resort



## SUR - key new features



New register to support inspection of pesticide application equipment

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Revise harmonized risk indicators (HRIs) in light of future Statistics on Agricultural Inputs and Outputs (SAIO) data

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Incentives for farmers to reduce pesticides under new CAP: exceptional funding to support compliance for 5 years

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Training – new periods of validity of training certs and proof of training needed for certain activities



## SUR - key new features



A ban on all pesticide use in sensitive areas and within 3m of those areas

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Aerial spraying – more stringent criteria for derogations

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## SUR – Directive to Regulation



Direct obligations on individuals

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More detailed and prescriptive obligations

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## SUR – Legally Binding Targets



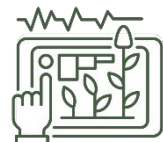
- ✓ EU binding targets: 50% reduction in use and risk of chemical/ use of more hazardous pesticides by 2030 (Art 4)



Formula taking account of historical progress and intensity of pesticide use with 35% minimum (Art 5)



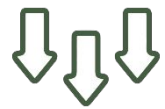
Transparency: Member States (MS) must respond publicly to Commission recommendations to increase their targets (Art 6)



Annual reporting on target trends with Commission analysis of progress every 2 years (Arts 7, 10 and 11)



## SUR – National Action Plans (NAPs)



✔ SUD NAPs could be quite varied – targets were voluntary and could cover different areas of concern

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✔ Under SUD, Member States (MS) could establish their own timetables, NAP review every 5 years

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✔ SUR NAPs have more streamlined contents – detailed list of what is to be included and links to F2F targets

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✔ Indicative targets based on analysis of key factors affecting trends in F2F targets





## SUR – National Action Plans



- ✓ Requirement to list financial and other measures to encourage IPM and non-chemical alternatives



- ✓ MS to list planned progress re quantitative measures of compliance, info on plans re 25% organic utilised agricultural area (UAA) target, etc.



- ✓ Annual Progress and Implementation Reports – trends in all targets, streamlined quantitative data on SUR



- ✓ compliance

Analysis by Commission of Annual Progress and Implementation Reports every 2 years



## SUR – Integrated Pest Management – crop-specific rules



- ✓ Detailed legal obligations on professional users to comply with IPM (Arts 12, 13 and 15)



- ✓ Art 13 obligations where no crop-specific rules in place -drawn from general IPM principles Annex III SUD



- ✓ Art 15: MS to adopt binding crop-specific rules 2 years after entry into force for 90% of UAA to take account of local conditions – soil, crops, climate



- ✓ Very detailed list of what those rules should cover – translates IPM to local circumstances (at MS or regional level)



## SUR – Integrated Pest Management – crop-specific rules



- ✓ Professional user is deemed to comply with IPM if he or she complies with crop-specific rules



- ✓ Member States have to review crop-specific rules on an annual basis and update when necessary



- ✓ Commission can object to crop-specific rules before they become binding/ before updated and can carry out audits to ensure rules scientifically robust and comply with SUR



## SUR – IPM – electronic record-keeping and advisors



- ✓ SUD had no system for recording reasoning process of professional users – hard to enforce IPM under SUD



- ✓ Under SUR, professional users must record reasons for any intervention (chemical, biological, physical or cultural)



- ✓ Threshold that needs to be reached before chemical intervention is set out in detail in crop-specific rules



- ✓ MS competent authorities to establish electronic IPM and plant protection product (PPP) use register and ensure professional users enter records



## SUR – IPM – Advisory system



SUR: professional users must get strategic advice on IPM, precision farming, risk mitigation etc. at least once a year

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Professional users used must keep records of advice received for 3 years in electronic IPM and plant protection product (PPP) use register

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## SUR – Application equipment



New central electronic register: notification requirements for transfer of ownership or withdrawal from use (Art 29)

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Competent authority managing the central electronic register and overseeing inspections (Art 30)

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More detailed list of information to be recorded at the time of inspection (Art 33)

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COM to carry out controls and audits to verify application of rules in each Member State (Art 30)



## SUR – Commitment to revise HRIs in light of SAIO data



Commitment in SUR to evaluate HRIs established under SUD 1 year after SUR entry into force (Art 35)

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Evaluation of HRIs 1, 2 and 2a to be based on scientific research and extensive consultation

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SUR to use SAIO data to publish new or amended HRIs 18 months after first data available under SAIO Regulation

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## SUR – Funding support from CAP for 5 years



New CAP (due to be implemented from 1 January 2023) to extend funding for voluntary practices to SUR compliance



Funding (e.g. eco-schemes and rural development initiatives) normally only for going beyond legal requirements.



Exemption to allow MS to fund compliance with **all** SUR obligations on farmers for 5 years

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## SUR – Training



Central electronic register for certifying training, detailed information it should contain (Art 25)

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Period of validity of training certs (5 years for advisor, 10 years for distributor or professional user) (Art 25)

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Proof of training before prof user can buy or use PPP authorised for professional use or use application equipment and before an advisor can advise (Arts 17, 23 and 24)

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Distributors have to have a sufficient number of trained staff (Art 24)



## SUR – Sensitive Areas



SUR prohibits the use of all pesticides in sensitive areas or within 3 metres of such areas (with derogations) (Art 18)

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More areas covered: human settlements, urban areas covered by watercourse/ water feature, non-productive areas, special protection areas, areas that sustain pollinator species threatened with extinction

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Stringent factors for derogations - proven serious and exceptional risk of the spread of quarantine pests/ invasive alien species and no technically feasible lower risk alternative control technique

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## SUR – Aerial spraying



Delegated act 3 years after entry into force: criteria that would allow the use of certain drones (Arts 21 and 45)

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Drones that are shown to have potential for a more targeted aerial application – list of factors for future criteria

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More stringent conditions for derogations

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“a less negative impact on human health and the environment than any alternative application method”



## SUR – Aerial spraying



Less negative impact: faster deployment so plant pests don't increase before deployment/ minimizing soil erosion when adverse weather = land unsuitable for land vehicles



Conditions for aerial spraying all set out in the SUR – under SUD they were for MS competent authorities to set



More detailed list of information on derogations required to be made public



No longer a default approval of aerial spraying application where no response given in time



## Supporting the transition

A package of key policies will support farmers and other users in the transition to more sustainable food production systems, including:



An increase of the range of biological and low risk alternatives on the market;

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Incentives for farmers to reduce pesticide use under the new CAP, including 5 year funding of compliance

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Research and Development under Horizon 2030;

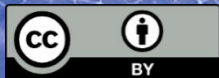
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and

An Organic Action Plan, to deliver the F2F pesticide targets.

# Thank you



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