

Dear Sirs,

As a person involved in fungicide resistance monitoring and also in writing the 'Resistance risk analysis' along EPPO Guidelines for fungicide products, I should like to indicate my agreement with the content of the recent paper by Paul Leonard entitled 'Managing Resistance for Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products' that was submitted to the EU Commission.

The appearance of strains of plant pathogenic fungi that have resistance to fungicides is a continuing problem. A very important counter measure is the ability to use an alternation or mixtures of active ingredients having different modes of action as a resistance prevention or management strategy. If through the re-registration process such a large reduction of products is foreseen, then at least it is essential that the remaining products represent an as wide as possible range of modes of action. Active ingredients that over a relatively long period of time (e.g. more than ten years) have not encountered any resistance problems, particularly against pathogens with a high risk of resistance development, are extremely valuable tools in resistance management. In addition, active ingredients against which some degree of resistance has already appeared can nevertheless be maintained in the portfolio for resistance management providing that sufficient possibility for alternation with other modes of action exists.

If the range of remaining active ingredients represents too few modes of action, it will put further pressure on the selection of resistance to them.

Yours sincerely,

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