



EU CROSS-COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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Previous issues can be found on the IEEP website
[http://www.ieep.org.uk/research/Cross Compliance/Project timetable and available documents.htm](http://www.ieep.org.uk/research/Cross%20Compliance/Project%20timetable%20and%20available%20documents.htm)

Verifiable Standards and Public/private Cooperation in Standard Setting and Enforcement

This article is based on a pan-European seminar in Ipendam, the Netherlands, that was held in September 2003, with additional input from CLM. The seminar was the second of a series of six seminars on cross compliance, funded by DG Research of the European Commission through the Fifth Framework Research Programme.

Member States are obliged to implement cross compliance during 2005. As a result Member States are currently formulating cross-compliance standards and preparing for inspection of farms to be increased to ensure that selected EU legislation (Annex III) and additional national norms (Annex IV) are enforced. In this context policy makers, academics, environmental NGOs and farmers' groups realise that some important lessons can be learned from private certification schemes. The Ipendam seminar provided an opportunity for these stakeholders to exchange information and experience on the:

- development and enforcement of verifiable standards in the private sector; and
- opportunities and threats for public-private co-operation on standard setting and enforcement.

Why is it important to look at private sector initiatives?

Private certification and assurance schemes are expanding and attracting increasing market shares. Schemes have been developed for different markets: regional, national, European and global. Governments, agricultural organisations, food processing industries and retailers are involved in the development of the schemes. For example the 'Euro Retailer Produce Working Group' (EUREPGAP¹) is being developed by a group of leading retailers in the food market in the EU. Most schemes are product-based but there are also schemes based on a whole-farm

approach. Most of the schemes include standards on environmental issues such as soil management, crop nutrition and crop protection. Some private sector schemes have been running for many years.

What can be learned from private certification and assurance schemes?

The first question is how experiences gained from private certification and assurance schemes can help in the development of cross-compliance in the EU. Lessons can be learned from the verifiable standards themselves, from the way verifiable standards are developed, how they are controlled and how the private sector works with farm advice, inspection and sanctions. In an annex two tables are presented with examples from the private sector, one with verifiable standards on soil management and crop nutrition and one with standards on crop protection.

Standard development in the private sector is based on criteria such as statutory standards, available inspection staff and controllability. Often all relevant stakeholders are involved in the decision making process.

With regard to control procedures the 'internal farm audit' may be a particularly interesting option for statutory cross compliance. The private sector has been developing 'internal farm audits' as a basis for compliance with standards. The internal farm audit is a checklist of verifiable standards that farmers have to comply with and are required to fill in before an inspector visits the farm. An 'internal farm audit' could also be used for risk assessment.

Private schemes often work with instruction manuals to increase the level of understanding of the farmers. Most private systems work with sanctions such as warnings and loss of the certificate (temporarily or definite). Some

¹ For more information see www.eurep.org.

schemes base loss of the certificate on surpassing a ceiling of penalty points. The system of penalty points may be useful for the design of sanctions applied in the case of non-compliance with statutory standards.

Many other lessons that can be drawn about private certification schemes are available from national councils for accreditation, but certification organisations can also be contacted directly for information.

Opportunities for public-private co-operation

We start with the present state of co-operation, present a vision of models for future co-operation and finally present opportunities for further co-operation.

At present, co-operation between the public and the private sector exists only in terms of the relationship between private sector standards and public law, and various types of co-operation with public bodies. Most private schemes are based on legal standards and include additional private standards beyond legislation. The additional private standards provide a distinctive quality in the market and often include obligations and recommendations.

Private certification schemes co-operate with public bodies in different ways. For example, by requiring advice from public bodies or having representatives from public bodies in an advisory committee or board. In case the certification scheme wishes to be recognised by the state it has to co-operate with a national accreditation council that judges the trustworthiness of certification systems which are often based on EN 45011². It should be noted that not all private assurance schemes are officially accredited. There are also forms of financial co-operation. For instance, public bodies occasionally co-finance the development of some private schemes.

² A set of general requirements for certification bodies. The equivalent rule at international level is Standard ISO 65.

Two models for future co-operation between public and private sector on standard setting and enforcement can be envisaged: co-operation or separation. A co-operation model is likely if private certificates continue to include standards at statutory level and additional private standards. A separation model is likely if private certificates concentrate entirely on standards beyond statutory level. Figure 1 overleaf illustrates the two models.

Opportunities for further co-operation

The easiest form of public private co-operation on standard setting and enforcement is mutual learning, with the aim to be more efficient and effective in both the public and the private sector. Options for mutual learning are, for example, in the field of development of control procedures (analysis of risk factors, definition of critical issues for inspection, and development of effective inspection methods).

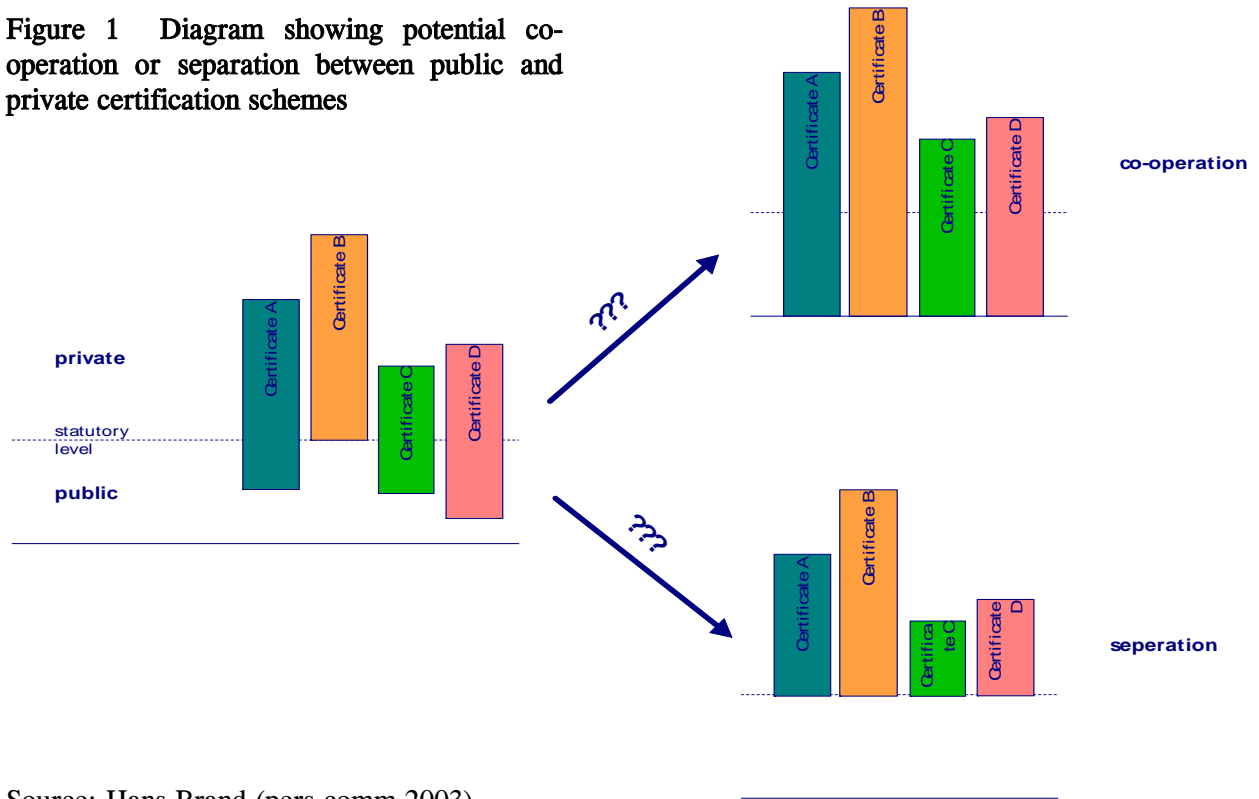
Co-operation could, however, go further, as farmers in certification schemes and dependent on direct income payments (from 'Pillar One' of the Common Agricultural Policy) do not want to risk financial sanctions (public) or damage to the buyers' trust in their private schemes. There is an opportunity for more co-operation on the integration of statutory standards in private schemes and harmonisation of verifiable standards at statutory level. There is also an opportunity for controlling exemptions or reduced control frequency on certified farms in accredited certification schemes.

Areas in need of further investigation

To cope with the increasing diversity of certification and farm assurance schemes it might be useful to establish an EU baseline on integrated farming. The French initiative of 'Agriculture raisonnée' can be used as an example of an initiative that could take place at the EU level. Currently the only protected and harmonised assurance scheme in the agricultural sector is organic farming. There is European baseline legislation for

environmental claims (Eco-labels) in the non-food sector. Perhaps ISO 14000³ could be used as a baseline for integrated farming in the food sector.

Figure 1 Diagram showing potential co-operation or separation between public and private certification schemes



Source: Hans Brand (pers comm 2003)

³ The International Organization for Standardisation. (ISO) promotes the development and implementation of voluntary international standards using a consensus-based approach amongst member countries.

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Annex Details of selected verifiable standards

The following two tables show the standards and verification methods for a selection of private certification and assurance schemes in Europe. The first table presents standards relating to soil management and crop nutrition. The second table presents standards relating to crop protection

Issues	Verifiable standards with regard to Soil Management & Crop Nutrition	Private certification and assurance schemes
Qualified personnel and advisor	Must be able to prove that a FACTS qualified agronomist was used for crop nutrition advice.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Growers or their advisers must be able to demonstrate competence and knowledge. Evidence is provided through existence of a statement of approved/competent advisor or competent operator on the farm	EUREPGAP, NL
	Application must be based on professional advice.	VVA Food safety certificate arable production, NL
Nutrient management plan including waste and hygiene issues	A Nutrient Management Plan, integrated with the Livestock Farm Waste Management Plan for FYM / slurry and other organic fertilisers e.g. treated sewage sludge must be available for consultation. The plan should be reviewed every year. The plan must take account of NPK and minor nutrient applications.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	A fertiliser crop plan must be present and used on the farm.	EUREPGAP, NL
	A fertiliser crop plan must be present and used on the farm.	Milieukeur, NL
	No GFT-compost can be used (unless hygiene is proven).	VVA Food safety certificate arable production, NL
	Compost may be used only when it passes sanitary standards.	Milieukeur, NL
Environmental impact assessment	Cadmium in phosphate fertiliser must be lower than 20 mg cadmium/kg phosphate. The type of fertiliser used must be audited.	Milieukeur, NL
	Soil-mapping techniques must be used for developing responses to the identified threats, such as areas prone to compaction, slumping, erosion and leaching.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	A soil compaction risk analysis must be carried out (including consideration of the quotient of pressure for each operation and each type of soil in relation to the soil humidity derived from the average precipitation).	USL, D
	An erosion risk assessment must be carried out (including consideration of topographic data, soil cover and cultivation techniques for each field).	USL, D
Soil organic matter	Self-assessment must include an analysis of the pH-class of soil.	USL, D
	A general policy to conserve and build up soil organic matter must be implemented. Measures would include incorporation of crop residues and efficient utilisation of other organic materials, where available.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Self-assessment must include consideration of the humus balance	USL, D

Crop need and soil fertility need	Leaf/soil analysis must be carried out, depending on which is appropriate. Farmers should be aware of soils and crops prone to trace element deficiencies.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Soil nitrogen supply to the growing crop must be estimated. Verification is either through checking records of estimated nitrogen supply or measurement of soil mineral nitrogen.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Fertilisation must be carried out on the basis of crop-need and soil fertility need. Applied quantities must comply with the fertiliser crop plan. Routine soil analyses must be available for verification.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Documentation must show that a minimum of one N-sample (or other analysis) was carried out to ensure the correct application of fertiliser.	Milieukeur, NL
	Max. of 1.5 manure units (DE)/ha	Neuland, D
	Max. of 3 cuts per year for grassland	Neuland, D
	Maximum manure-fertiliser of 170 kg N and 85 kg P ₂ O ₅ per year.	Milieukeur, NL
	Restricted nitrogen and phosphate application (different options given).	Milieukeur, NL
	Self-control must ensure that the application of manure is according to GFP.	QS Quality and Safety, D
Crop rotation	Must have a justifiable long-term rotation plan that will identify annual cropping for current year and intentions for future years (ideally 3 years).	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Max. of 33% maize in system of crop rotation	Neuland, D
	Use of manure in July or August, plus sowing of nitrogen-binding plants or another crop later on in that year.	Milieukeur, NL
Correct application and storage of fertilisers	Field conditions must be assessed prior to operations being carried out to ensure timeliness, correct conditions and the most appropriate equipment and techniques are used. Verbal assurance is acceptable proof.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Calibrated and well functioning fertiliser spraying equipment must be used. Calibration records, maintenance records or invoices of spare parts must be available on request	EUREPGAP, NL
	Calibrated and well functioning fertiliser spraying equipment must be used.	VVA Food safety certificate arable production, NL
	Calibrated and well functioning fertiliser spraying equipment must be used. Calibration must be performed at least once every 4 years.	Milieukeur, NL
	Fertilisers must be stored appropriately in covered, clean, dry places that minimise the risk of contamination of water sources.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Self-control must ensure that there is storage capacity for slurry for at least 2 months.	QS Quality and Safety, D
Registrations of soil management and crop nutrition	All cultivations and field operations must be recorded. On large farms with small fields grouping is acceptable.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK
	Records of both inorganic and organic fertiliser applications must be kept on a field basis, to confirm that the Nutrient Management Plan has been followed. Field records should show evidence that all nutrient applications have been applied in the right amounts, in the right place and at the right time.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming) UK

	Soil management and crop nutrition must be registered (location, date, type, quantity, method, operator). Registration is audited annually.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Soil management and crop nutrition must be registered (location, date, type, quantity, method, operator) on the whole farm. Registration is audited annually.	Milieukeur, NL
	Fertiliser application must be registered weekly. Complete registration has to be handed in before the crop is delivered for processing.	VVA Food safety certificate arable production, NL
	Fertiliser application must be registered (law since 2003). Registration is checked (randomly, 30%) and processed via a central database.	MPS ornamental flowers and plants, NL
	Documentation on neutral control must be available for self-control.	QS Quality and Safety, D
Input-output accounts	For self-control documentation of nutrient balance must be carried out.	QS Quality and Safety, D
	Criteria for self-assessment: N-balance (farmgate) (optimum between 0 and 20 kg N/ha a; tolerable range between -50 kg N/ha a and +30 or 50 kg N/ha a, dependent on location).	USL, D
	Criteria for self-assessment: P- and K-balance (farmgate) (dependent on reserves in soil; optimum balance lies at 0; tolerable range between -15 and +15 kg P/ha a and -50 and +50 kg K/ha a for soil with average P and K reserves)	USL, D
	Records of stocks of fertilisers must be kept up to date and available.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Purchase and stock of fertilisers must be registered. Audited annually.	Milieukeur, NL
	Standards for self-control (checklist): Record of utilisation of manure leaving the farm.	QS Quality and Safety, D
	Environmental scores are given, based on registration (of pesticides, fertilisers, energy, disposal of waste, water recirculation) the participant is put in a category of environmental impact/success.	MPS ornamental flowers and plants, NL

Issues	Verifiable standards with regard to crop protection	Private certification and assurance schemes
Qualified personnel and advisor	Staff or contractors must be trained in the identification of pest, disease and crop disorders. Training records are checked.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	A BASIS registered agronomist must be used for crop protection advice.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Managers and operators should be continually trained (every three years) in the proper use of pesticides. BASIS registration and now the National Register of Sprayer Operators all exist to enable users to show continuous professional development (CPD).	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Growers or their advisers must be able to demonstrate competence and knowledge	Milieukeur, NL

	Growers or their advisers must be able to demonstrate competence and knowledge.	EUREPGAP, NL
Crop protection plan	A planned and documented crop protection policy must be available, including evidence of selection of varieties resistant to pest and diseases, cultivations, product selection, appropriate dosing and a resistance strategy.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	A crop protection plan must be available.	Milieukeur, NL
	Use of methods of integrated plant protection (list of 9 requirements).	USL, D
Monitoring systems	Where crop protection chemicals will be used, there must be a system for monitoring and recording pests (including vertebrate), disease, weed levels and beneficial predatory insects. Thresholds must be used e.g. for blight record weather, warnings e.g. for moth traps for peas.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	A documented procedure to ensure that harvest intervals are observed must be available. Plans must identify proposed harvest date and the first permissible harvest date after pesticide application.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
Environmental impact assessment and notification process	The environmental impact of all crop protection practices, including chemical, mechanical and cultural, must be considered in the crop protection policy. Records of justification with spray records or monitoring records must be available. Use of decision support systems, advice tools and other precision farming techniques is required.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Must have a documented procedure and notification process that is displayed to alert relevant authorities for dealing with spillages of pesticides.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
Crop need and ecosystem need	Steps must be taken to minimise damage to beneficial organisms and wildlife, and recorded. Evidence includes consideration of natural predators, buffer zones, minimal cultivations and use of environmental information sheets (when launched).	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	On arable land pesticides must be used in accordance with “conditions for water protection”.	Neuland, D
	No use of pesticides on grassland.	Neuland, D
	Intensity of plant protection (l/ha a) in relation to the regional guidance level for each crop must be between 30% below and 20% above the regional standard.	USL, D
	Strategies to avoid pest resistance to herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides must be available in the crop protection policy.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Environmentally damaging pesticides must be registered, used minimally, stocks controlled and residues analysed.	Milieukeur, NL
	Chemical soil-cleaning cannot be used.	Milieukeur, NL
	Mechanical weeding of ditches, waterways and talud must be used (herbicides are not allowed, although there is an exemption for some problem weeds.)	Milieukeur, NL
	The amounts used must be restricted (e.g. for seed potatoes maximum 12 kg/ha)	Milieukeur, NL

	Crop rotation must be used, or justification for an exemption showed.	EUREPGAP, NL
Correct application and mixing of pesticides	Pesticide use, infestation levels and pesticide type have to be considered. Spray records for evidence of appropriate dosing must be available.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Pesticides must be used only when needed	VVA Food safety certificate arable production NL
	Must be aware of restrictions on pesticide use. Compliance is proven through the registration of applications.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Sprayers should be tested annually by a nationally recognised scheme such as the National Sprayer Test Scheme and records kept of the tests.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Precautions to ensure pesticide use is limited to the area in which it is required must be undertaken. Acceptable methods include: precision farming techniques, correct spraying conditions, using low drift techniques, sprayer choice and spray nozzle choice.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Use of low-drift nozzles is obligatory.	Milieukeur, NL
	Minimal use of pesticides and use of IMP-techniques where technically feasible and economically viable.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Calibrated and well functioning spray equipment must be used. Calibration records are audited annually. Maintenance records or invoices of spare parts must be available on request.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Pesticide application by aeroplane or helicopter is not allowed.	Milieukeur, NL
	Spray mix must be calculated, taking into account: velocity of application, surface area and pressure.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Wherever chemical mixing occurs, the site must give protection to the environment and surface water. Yard drains, slope and proximity to watercourses or very permeable ground in groundwater protection zones must be considered.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	Where run-off from mixing areas is not contained, must seek advice from your environment agency and obtain written confirmation.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
Disposal of waste materials	Empty pesticide containers must be disposed of in a way to avoid exposure to humans or contamination of the environment.	EUREPGAP, NL
Registrations of pesticide application	Used pesticides must be registered (crop name, location, date, name of pesticide, operator, justification, technical authorisation, quantity, method, first harvestable date).	EUREPGAP, NL
	Only appropriate pesticides can be used. Written justification of all pesticide inputs (target and intervention thresholds) must be documented.	EUREPGAP, NL
	Chemicals used for sterilisation of substrate must be registered (type, method, date, operator).	EUREPGAP, NL
	Justification of use for pesticides and mechanical weed cultivations must be recorded. Decision support systems, advice tools and other precision farming techniques should be used.	Leaf Marque (Linking Environment and Farming), UK
	A current list of pesticides that are registered for use on the crops should available on the farm	EUREPGAP, NL

	Used pesticides should be registered daily. Complete registration has to be handed in before the crop is delivered for processing.	VVA Food safety certificate arable production NL
Input-output accounts	Categories of environmental score are assigned, based on registration (pesticides, fertilisers, energy, disposal of waste, water recirculation).	MPS ornamental flowers and plants, NLMPS ornamental flowers and plants, NL
	Pesticides in stock must be registered. Categories of environmental score are assigned, based on registration of pesticides, fertilisers, energy, disposal of waste, water recirculation.	Milieukeur, NLMPS ornamental flowers and plants, NL
	Registration of purchases of pesticides must be available.	Milieukeur, NLMilieukeur, NL
	Fault-points are attributed for using environmentally harmful pesticides (eg. in potato growing: glufosinaat-ammonium, lambda-cyhalothrin, pirimicarb, flutolanil, mancozeb/cymoxanil, diuat, metoxuron, metaldehyde).	Milieukeur, NL

Towards Implementation of Cross-compliance in Member States

Discussions are underway in Member States on how to implement cross-compliance; the June 2003 CAP Reform agreement obliges Member States to have a system in place from January 2005 (the revised 'Common Rules' Regulation 1782/2003). For most Member States this will be the first time that they have implemented cross-compliance, as only a few chose to implement voluntary cross-compliance after the Agenda 2000 reforms of the CAP introduced this option in 1999. Most Member States have not yet established a formal position or initiated consultations on cross-compliance options fulfilling obligations under Reg 1782/2003, although some discussions on the topic have begun. Progress is being constrained partly by the lack of an Implementing Regulation, which will give Member States clearer guidance on cross compliance. The Implementing Regulation is not expected from the Commission until spring 2004.

There are two parallel processes that are currently under consideration. Firstly, methods for implementing statutory management requirements set out in Annex III must be developed. In particular, Member States must decide what verifiable standards will be used to ensure compliance with these management requirements and how compliance will be checked. Secondly, Member States must decide how they will define Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) as set out in Annex IV and, in addition, consider how they will conserve the total area of permanent grassland at national level.

Various approaches to the implementation of obligatory cross-compliance are expected, since Member States have considerable subsidiarity on many aspects. Although most Member States will only require farmers to meet minimum standards set out in the Regulation, some plan to use this as an

opportunity to raise standards in agriculture and may go beyond EU standards. Some further details on approaches to implementing cross-compliance are provided below.

Statutory management requirements

There are a total of 18 Directives in Annex III of the revised Common Rules Regulation on the environment, public, plant and animal health and animal welfare. Eight of these Directives have to be implemented from 1 January 2005⁴, a further seven from 1 January 2006 and the remainder from 1 January 2007. Member States are required to ensure that farmers receive a list of statutory management requirements for fulfilling obligations under these Directives. Member States will also be required to carry out on-the-spot checks to ensure compliance with these management requirements.

In preparation for drawing up a list of management requirements some Member States are first carrying out an analysis of implementation of the Directives (eg Austria and Denmark). Management plans for Natura 2000 sites will be necessary for developing management requirements at farm level, so in cases where these have not already been drawn up this has become a priority area of activity. In Greece, for instance, management requirements have only been set for 10 of the 220 proposed Natura 2000 sites to date.

The development of verifiable standards to be used at farm level for on-the-spot checks is also a priority area of activity. Some Member States will build on existing verifiable standards for Good Farming Practice used as a baseline for agri-environment schemes in the Rural Development Regulation

⁴ Directives 79/409/79 on conservation of wild birds, 80/68/79 on protection of groundwater, 86/278/86 on sewage sludge, 91/676/91 on nitrates, 92/43/92 on conservation of habitats, 92/102/92 on identification, 2629/97 on identification of bovines and 1760/2000 on labelling.

(1257/1999) and Good Agricultural Practice that was voluntarily developed as a baseline for cross-compliance on direct payments. Many are taking this opportunity to improve existing standards and are using the lessons learned from using verifiable standards over the period from 1999 to the present day to further improve the targeting and efficiency of control procedures.

Good agricultural and environmental condition

Annex IV of the revised Common Rules Regulation requires Member States to ensure that land is maintained in good agricultural and environmental condition, especially land no longer used for production purposes. Standards for maintaining GAEC can be set at national or regional level, and must take into account 'the specific characteristics of the areas concerned, including soil and climatic condition, existing farming systems, land use, crop rotation, farming practices, and farm structures' (Reg 1782/2003). Member States are also required to ensure maintenance of the total area of permanent pasture (the baseline is taken as the area which was under permanent pasture at the date provided for the area aid applications for 2003). However, Member States may allow derogation if there is no significant decrease in the total area of permanent pasture.

Some Member States (eg Denmark) are proposing to approach this requirement in steps. They will be focusing initially on only three or four issues with a view to extending the scope of standards at a later date. Priority issues vary across Member States, from overgrazing, soil compaction and loss of organic matter in soil in northern Member States to prevention of fire and soil erosion in southern Member States. The Member States most threatened with abandonment (eg

Portugal) are using this as an opportunity to attempt to prevent further loss of agricultural land, whereas countries that do not consider abandonment to be a threat (eg the Netherlands) have indicated that they are not likely to introduce many standards or obligations on farmers through this instrument.

With regard to the maintenance of permanent pasture, for some Member States this will be an easy task as they already have measures in place to prevent ploughing up or conversion of grassland for other uses (eg France, Denmark, the Netherlands and UK). Some Member States also have a system for monitoring the area and location of permanent grassland (eg UK, Sweden) although this will need to be established in many countries (eg Denmark). Austria is likely to request a regional scheme to allow for the various ecological and socio-economic conditions of its Alpine areas. A derogation system is likely in the Netherlands, Finland and Germany (where options for ring-fencing and trading of permits for ploughing permanent grassland are being explored).

Closing remarks

As time moves on, Member States are under some pressure to begin to develop options and carry out stakeholder consultations. However, it will be difficult to finalise options before the European Commission releases the Implementing Regulation. As a result, no formal positions are expected to be released until after this date.

Information for this article was gathered during a seminar in Roskilde on cross-compliance in November 2003 and from informal interviews with officials from ministries of agriculture.

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Future meetings

A meeting entitled 'Evaluation of cross-compliance' will be held in Granada on 19/20 April 2004. It will cover issues such as the cost-effectiveness, monitoring and efficiency of cross-compliance options, with a particular focus on Mediterranean regions/crops. If wish to register your interest in attending or submitting a paper to present at this meeting please contact the organiser:

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A meeting entitled 'Cross-compliance in CEECs' will be held in Prague on 20-21 September 2004. It will focus on issues particularly relevant to CEE Accession Countries, and in particular implementation of Annex IV of the revised Common Rules Regulation (on Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition). Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Relevant and Recently Published Reports

OECD (2003) *Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment – Agri-environmental policy measures: overview of developments*. OECD: Paris.

DG Environment (2003) *Life and agri-environment supporting Natura 2000*. European Commission: Luxembourg.

This contains very useful examples of successful and unsuccessful co-operation between agri-environment measures and LIFE.

EISA (2003) *Integrated Farming Obligations – a Working Document: Setting the Standard for Sustainable Agriculture*. European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture: Bonn, Germany.

Berkhuysen A & Kuneman G (2003) *No such thing as a free lunch: cross compliance and good agricultural practice*. Society for Nature and Environment: Utrecht, Netherlands.

Webster P & Williams N (2002) *Environmental cross-compliance – Panacea or Placebo?* A paper presented at the 13th Congress of the International Farm Management Association (IFMA), July 7 - July 12, 2002.

<http://www.ifma.nl/files/papersandposters/PDF/Papers/Webster%20&%20Williams.pdf>

Poux X & Zakeossian P (2003) *Dispositif d'inventaire des bonnes pratiques agricoles et des pratiques agro-environnementales - Analyse nationale (France) des demarches agro-environnementales*. Ministere de L'Ecologie et du Developpement Durable: Paris.

<http://www.environnement.gouv.fr/actua/cominfos/dosdir/DIRGAD/media/France.pdf>

Poux X & Zakeossian P (2003) *Dispositif d'inventaire des bonnes pratiques agricoles et des pratiques agro-environnementales - Comparaison Europeene*. Ministere de L'Ecologie et du Developpement Durable: Paris.

<http://www.environnement.gouv.fr/actua/cominfos/dosdir/DIRGAD/media/Europe.pdf>