The EU said Biocontrol is an important alternative but where are we in these policy options?
Biocontrol
also known as Bioprotection or Biologicals:

4 categories

Invertebrates 01
Beneficial Insects, mites and nematodes that control other insects and mites

Microbials 03
Micro-organisms that outcompete or control pests and diseases

Natural Substances 02
Botanical extracts and minerals

Semiochemicals 04
Insect pheromones and plant kairomones that affect the behaviour of specific insects or plants
1. DEFINE IPM AND BIOPROTECTION
IPM means a pest and disease management programme that puts biology first, through agronomic decisions and the use of biocontrol, and uses chemistry only if necessary.

IPM prioritises non-chemical methods, which include bioprotection so that biodiversity is regenerated and cropping systems are made more resilient.

Bioprotection or biocontrol solutions must be defined at European level and the definition applied in national legislation.

2. SYSTEMATICALLY MONITOR AND MEASURE THE ADOPTION OF IPM
Farmers need tools and need to see progress in availability of non-chemical solutions such as bioprotection. Bioprotection use is a relevant parameter for measurement of IPM adoption.

3. SET SPECIFIC AND AMBITIOUS ADOPTION TARGETS
Create positive targets for bioprotection. NAPs need to include a specific relevant target for bioprotection uptake in each MS. IBMA advocates a 75% target for bioprotection at EU level to achieve the agroecological transition.

4. PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR PROGRESSING TOWARDS AND REACHING TARGETS
IPM implementation must be incentivised for farmers and progress reported and measured. Advisory services also need incentivising to recommend IPM and bioprotection.

5. TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION ABOUT IPM AND BIOPROTECTION
Farmers and advisers need training in the implementation of IPM and the use of bioprotection and other non-chemical methods.
## Biocontrol is Essential to the Green Deal

IEEP report conclusion – [read more here](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU strategies</th>
<th>Selected 2030 objectives</th>
<th>Biocontrol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farm-to-Fork</td>
<td>50% less chemical pesticide use</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm-to-Fork</td>
<td>Organic farming on 25% farmed land</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>10% of agricultural area → high diversity in landscape features</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero Pollution</td>
<td>75% of soils are healthy</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

No doubt, we are really essential for the future of agriculture

www.ieep.eu  @P_eu
**SOIL**
- Biocontrol enhances soil life and soil health
- It reduces risks of chemical contamination

**BIODIVERSITY**
- Biocontrol respects non-targeted fauna and flora
- Example of organic farming

**CLIMATE**
- Potentially less emissions
- Enabler for sustainable farming

**HUMAN HEALTH**
- Less pesticide exposure for farmer workers
- No chemical residues

**FARM ECONOMICS**
- Proven efficacy of biocontrol
- Response to chemical pesticide ban/restrictions
- High benefit/cost ratio

**GOVERNANCE**
- Biocontrol goes together with ecosystem knowledge and holistic approach

And so many wider benefits
Evaluation Part – Key Findings

SUD is the opportunity to enable:
➢ the use of existing and future biocontrol solutions
➢ to further reduce the risk, the use of and dependency on chemical pesticides
  by deploying biocontrol

• Effectiveness
  • IPM awareness and practices have increased

• Efficiency
  • No direct economic benefit to comply with SUD
    • Due to minimal increase of farm gate value for environmental benefit
    • Additional value creation through rest of value chain is needed
    • And CAP support for environmental practices

• Coherence and Complementarity
  • CAP National Strategic Plans provide means to reward SUD implementation and the use of biocontrol
    • 1107/2009 currently hindering authorisation of biocontrol alternatives to chemicals

• EU Added Value
  • The implementation of these elements needs to further progress
Main Results from Impact Assessment

Biocontrol has been totally forgotten

**PROBLEM ANALYSIS**

- Reduction in resource factors (chemicals, applications)
- Increase in market and social demands
- Improvement in scientific, environmental and social acceptance
- Cost efficiency of production

**Missing here:**
CAP National Strategic Plans are an opportunity for SUD implementation
➢ Lack of Coherence with 1107/2009 where biocontrol solutions are not enabled

**Missing here:**
New alternative technologies + Biocontrol solutions

Appears you forgot us, here is where we should be!

- Enabling biocontrol reduces dependency on chemical pesticides
- Reducing dependency increases crop resilience
- Increasing resilience mitigates climate change
- Enabling biocontrol helps mitigate climate change
Main Results from Impact Assessment

Biocontrol definition and fast track are needed

• Reward farmers for the environmental benefits of agroecological practices – including use of biocontrol
• Fast track biocontrol in 1107/2009
• Link biocontrol to EU Code of Conduct for Food Industry

Biocontrol needs a legal definition to enable its development, timely authorisation, promotion, training and farmer understanding.
Assessment of Policy Options - Analysis of Impacts

(i) How can biocontrol enable these policy options
(ii) How can these policy options enable biocontrol

1. **Alignment with pesticide-related targets in F2F**
   
   *Biocontrol reduces the use and risk of pesticides and increases crop resilience so helping mitigate climate change*

2. **Strengthening current provisions**
   
   *A definition of biocontrol enables CAP NSPs and 1107/2009 to promote biocontrol as an existing new technology*

3. **Strengthening data availability and monitoring**
   
   *A definition enables separate measurement of biocontrol and chemical pesticides improving precision of measurement of achievement of targets*

4. **Accounting for new technologies**
   
   *Biocontrol is an alternative new technology available today and tomorrow*
Addressing New Technologies – Biocontrol

• [LA] Biocontrol definition in the SUD - impact
  • Enables CAP National Strategic Plans to incentivise biocontrol
  • Enables separation and measurement of biocontrol and chemical pesticides to reach reduction targets while increasing use of alternatives
  • Facilitates coherence with other EU legislation → Reg (EC) No 1107/2009
  • Can be used as an indicator measuring IPM use

• [LA] Current IPM Principles in SUD annex to fully reflect the potential of biocontrol to reduce the use of pesticides while enhancing crop resilience
  • Biocontrol is the only alternative technology today that reduces pesticide use, while also reducing dependency on pesticides, → increases resilience and contributes to climate mitigation
  • Biocontrol is compatible and can be enhanced by digital monitoring and application techniques
Conclusion

➢ A definition of biocontrol is low ambition [LA].
  ➢ this is the minimum action to achieve F2F goals.

➢ This definition must be included in the SUD Art.3:
  - to enable biocontrol use,
  - reducing chemical pesticide use,
  - realising the environmental and social benefits of biocontrol,
  - while retaining sustainable productivity.
F2F: together we can make it happen

IBMA
International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association AISBL

Rue de Treves 61, 1040 Brussels, Belgium
WWW.IBMA-GLOBAL.ORG

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jennifer Lewis
jennifer.lewis@ibma-global.org

REGULATORY CONSULTANT
Ulf Heilig
ulf.heilig@ibma-global.org

ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION MANAGER
Isabelle Pinzauti Babrzynski
isabelle.pinzauti@ibma-global.org

ADMINISTRATION
Louisa Puschel
administrations@ibma-global.org
Britta Schnittger
Britta.Schnittger@ibma-global.org