

Final Dissemination Event

Rethinking risk assessment for the next generation of biopesticides

When: October 8th, 2026

Where: Palace of the Academies, Auditorium Albert II, Rue Ducale 1 / Hertogstraat 1, 1000 Brussels

8.30 – 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 – 9.20 Opening Session

Low Risk Pesticides – Where we are today with their risk assessment and regulation – Eric Legeois or Domenico Deserion, DG Sante, European Commission

9.20 – 10.00 Keynote

Potential Low Risk Pesticides – What is the contribution of RATiON in the risk assessment of LRPs - Dimitrios Karpouzas, University of Thessaly

10.00 – 10.45 Session 1 – Stephane Marette (15 min each)

1. How member states face the risk assessment of low-risk pesticides – Joao Godinho, Wageningen University
2. The economics of market developments for biopesticides – Justus Wesseler, Wageningen University
3. Consumers perspective on the use of biopesticides for food production – Stephane Marette, INRAE

10.45 – 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 – 12.30 Session 2 – Microbials and New Microbiome Solutions – Günter Brader (15 min each)

1. Microbial consortia – How do we deal with them in RATiON – Günter Brader, AIT
2. Microbial predators - critical considerations for risk assessment – Antonis Chatzinotas, UFZ, Leipzig
3. How bioinformatics could be used in the risk assessment of microbials – Joao Saraiva, UFZ, Leipzig; Günter Brader, AIT; Sotiris Vasileiadis, UTH
4. Ecotoxicological advances in testing microbials – Stefania Loutseti, Syngenta; Judith Epping Wageningen Univ.

Open Discussion

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 14.15 Session 3 – Botanicals, pheromones and semiochemicals – Ido Korman (15 min each)

1. Current status and advances of the risk assessment of semiochemicals – Karine Mouret-Grosbeau, CBC Europe
2. How to deal with risk assessment of complex mixtures in natural products – Anja Coors, ECT Oekotoxicologie
3. Analytical approaches to deal with the characterization of complex mixtures – Asaph Aharoni, Weizmann Institute

Open Discussion

14.15 – 15.30 Session 4 - dsRNA – Khalid Amari

1. Direct and indirect effects of dsRNA– Khalid Amari, JKI



2. Bringing bioinformatics in hazard characterization for dsRNA – Christos Andronis, IMBB-FORTH
3. dsRNA environmental behaviour and effects on the soil microbiome – Thanasis Dalakouras, HAO
4. Data Decision Trees for dsRNA pesticides – Claudia Strauch, JKI

Open Discussion

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 16.45 Session 5 – RATION risk assessment approach and case studies for microbials, botanicals and semiochemicals – Belen Guijarro and Jose Luis Alonso Prados, CSIC-INIA

16.45 – 17.30

Closing Round Table (members to be determined)



Auditorium Albert II





Palace of the Academics, Brussels,

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 101084163. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

