

A proposal for an EU (SPISE) database of the licensed sprayers inspectors and inspection centres

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Summary

In order to guarantee at European level the easy identification of sprayers inspected and to allow mutual recognition of inspections as recommended by the European Directive on Sustainable Use of Pesticides (128/2009/EC) it would be necessary to create a SPISE database enabling to collect the list of the technicians authorized to make inspections of sprayers in use and of the licensed inspection centers. This database should be managed at SPISE level and should be linked to the national databases for getting regular updates.

Actually in Italy there is a public national online database (www.centriprovairroratrici.unito.it) that was realized by the ENAMA working group. Only the sprayers inspected by the test stations listed in this database are recognized all over the country.

This national database contains also the results of all the inspections made in the different Italian Regions and therefore provides a support for monitoring the inspection activity at national level. Independently of the software used at local level for managing data of sprayer inspections, some key information have to be necessarily provided in order to identify the sprayer inspected.

They are the coordinates of the test station, the name of the technician who inspected the sprayer, the name of the owner of the sprayer, the data of the machine inspected, the date of the inspection and its response.

Introduction

European Directive 128/2009/EC (Art. 8, paragraph 6, 2nd clause) requires that: “each Member State shall establish certificated systems appointed to allow the verification of inspections and to recognize the certificates granted in other Member States.”

In 3rd clause also it requires that each Member State shall endeavor to recognize the certificates issued in other Member States provided that the inspection intervals prescribed in paragraph 1 are complied with.

In order to guarantee at European level an easier identification of sprayers inspected and to improve the mutual recognition of inspections, it would be necessary to create a “SPISE” database enabling to collect the list of authorized inspection workshops and of the technicians licensed to make inspections of sprayers in use.

The Italian situation

In Italy in the ambit of ENAMA National Working Group (Balsari et al., 2007; Balsari et al., 2010) a national database (www.centriprovairroratrici.unito.it) has been created. Only the sprayers inspected by the workshops listed in this database are recognized all over the country.

The regional responsible for the sprayer inspection activity communicate at regular intervals to the national manager of the database (that actually is represented by DEIAFA – University of Torino and ENAMA) the updated data of the authorized workshops and of the licensed inspectors, including the eventual suspensions or withdrawals of inspectors licenses. The national manager of database, on the basis of the information collected, updates the national database so that every user (access to the database is free and without any registration) can have access to all updated relevant data and can export them (in xls or pdf format, Fig. 1).

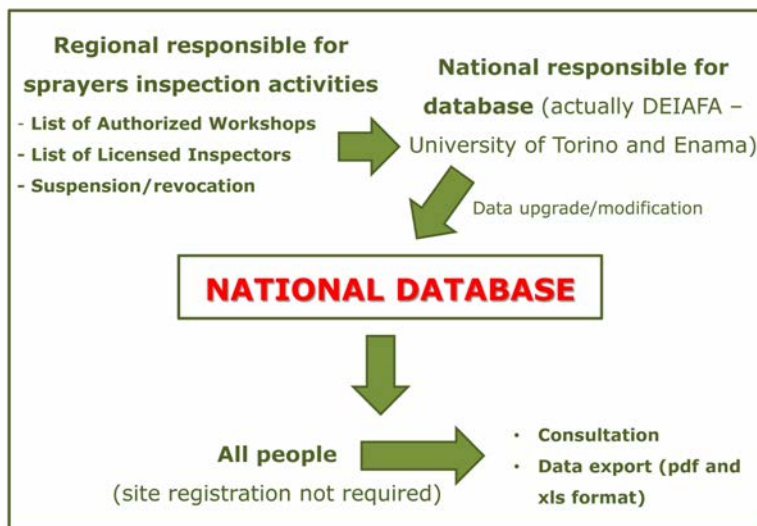


Fig. 5. Management of the Italian database.

Database structure

National database actually contains (Fig. 2):

- Name and reference of the Regional responsible person for sprayers inspection activities (A);
- List of authorized Workshops for each Region (B);
- List of authorized inspectors (boom sprayer, orchard sprayers, lances and spray guns) for each Workshop (C).

Thanks to a specific system of software filters, anyone who enters the database may carry out a targeted research at national or at local level and can get information related to the authorized workshops present in each Region, to the licensed inspectors working in each workshop, to the contacts (phone, email, address) of each sprayer inspection centre and to the name of the person responsible of each workshop (Fig. 3, Fig. 4).

This database will be upgraded with the results of all the inspections made in the different Italian Regions and therefore will provide also a support for monitoring the inspection activity at national level. This activity will be carried out in collaboration with SIAN (National Agricultural Information System – www.sian.it).

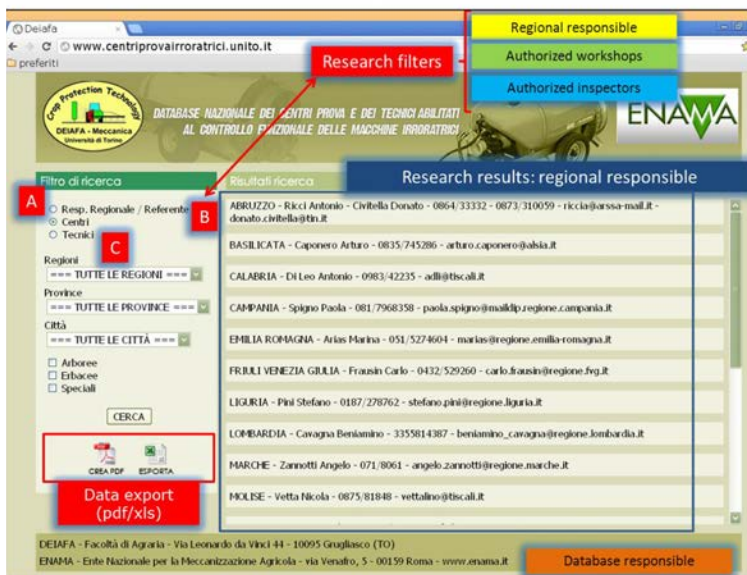


Fig. 6. Database web page of regional responsible.



Fig. 7. Example of research results (filter: Workshop in Veneto Region).

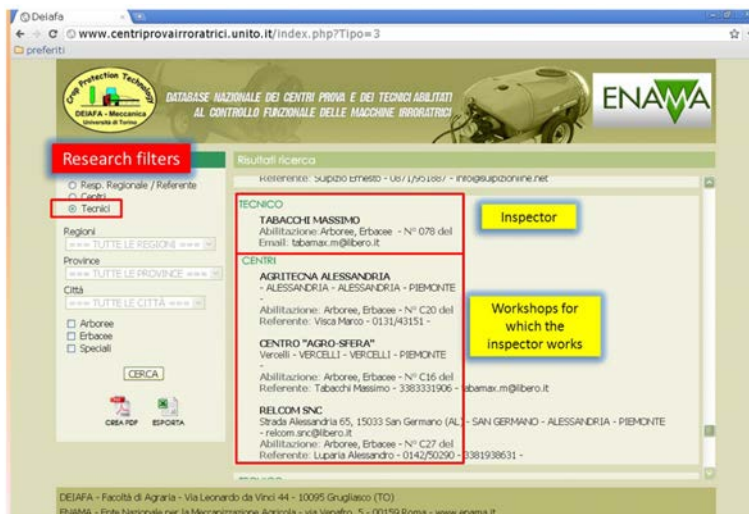


Fig. 8. Example of research results (filter: inspector).

Conclusions

The Italian experience could be a useful starting point to be transferred at European level to follow the 128 EU Directive requirements. In order to have in the future an European database of licensed sprayer inspectors and inspection workshops, it would be necessary to define, within the SPISE community, several aspects that are currently missing:

- Type of software to be used (it must be able to "talk" with all national databases/software)
- Transfer data interval
- Who will take care within the SPISE community of the SPISE database
- For data consulting, free access or protected with password

In the meantime, it will be necessary for all EU member states to set up a national database able to transfer to the European database all main relevant data about sprayer inspections. These should include:

- List of authorized workshops
- List of licensed inspectors
- Type of sprayer inspected
- Identification of the sprayer (type, serial number, picture, etc..)
- Identification of sprayer owner (farm name, country)
- Date of the inspection and its response
- Inspection identification number (see sticker)
- Date (year) of next inspection.

References

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