

## Introduction to the Workshop

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Some time has passed since the SPISE 1 Workshop at Braunschweig 2004 and since then a lot has happened and many things have been clarified. Today we already meet for the SPISE 5 workshop and I can welcome more than 100 participants from 23 European countries and 2 extra European countries (Brazil and Canada).

This fig. shows the colleagues from the Spise Working Group (SWG), coming from Belgium, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Italy.



Fig. 1 Members of the SPISE Working Group

First of all I would like to underline the two main objectives of SPISE:

- Harmonisation of procedures for the inspections of sprayers in use in the European Union
- Support to the implementation of the Directive 2009/128/EU on sustainable use of pesticides regarding the prescriptions dealing with sprayers inspections in EU Member States.

It is the first SPISE Workshop after the official adoption by Member States of the Directive 2009/128/EU. The main objectives of the present Workshop shall be:

- Update the present situation of sprayers inspection in the Member States. Support homogeneous sprayer inspection activities in EU Member States so to get mutual recognition.
- Improve communication about sprayer inspections (involvement of farmers through COPACOGECA).  
Contribute to overcome operative difficulties through the activities of SPISE Technical Working Groups (TWG).

For this last mentioned objective please let me come back to the SPISE 4 workshop held in 2012 at Lana (South Tyrol). One of the outcomes of that workshop was the establishment of the Technical Working Groups with the following tasks:

1. Develop a common proposal concerning how to deal with **minor defects**.
2. Develop a common proposal concerning how to deal with **brand new sprayers**.
3. Define a common **risk assessment** procedure for PAE to be exempted from the inspections.
4. Define a common way on how to **“certify” the workshop activity** (quality assurance), including the test facilities.
5. Define guidelines on how to make **sprayer adjustment** (both field crop and orchard sprayers).
6. Collect from MS available **training material** and make it downloadable on SWG website.
7. Create a **SPISE database** with all MS authorized inspectors and workshops.
8. Define SPISE guidelines for the inspection of **railway train sprayers**.

All participants of the SPISE 4 workshop were invited to contribute in one or more working groups and to sign in the displayed lists. About 30 people followed that invitation and in the meantime the Technical Working Groups met already three times. In 2013 the members met at Braunschweig and at Barcelona. In 2014 the members were invited to Amsterdam. In very intensive and constructive manner the TWG-members brought fourth still open topics. Today the TWG will present the results of their work. Therefore the agenda of this workshop corresponds to the topics processed by the TWG members.

Before starting the main part of the workshop please let us all together recall Mr. Per Gummer Andersen. He passed away at the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2014. For several decades he left an imprint worldwide on the application technique area. From the beginning he also supported the SPISE community by preparing, organizing and chairing workshop sessions. Also the definition of the objectives of the SPISE TWG were fundamental provided by Per.

Now Eskil Nilsson and Emilio Gil will give a video presentation concerning the life's work of Per Gummer Andersen.



**Per Gummer Andersen**  
**2.1.1949 - 31.7.2014**