



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DELLA  
Tuscia



FONDAZIONE  
EDMUND  
MACH



## CONVEGNO

«È possibile un'agricoltura biologica senza l'impiego del rame?»

La ricerca risponde e si confronta con il settore

Tenutosi presso l'Aula Magna «A. Quacquarelli»

Del Centro di ricerca Difesa e Certificazione (CREA-DC) Sede di Roma

il 14 giugno 2017



Progetto

Strategie per la riduzione e possibili alternative all'utilizzo del rame in agricoltura biologica  
(ALT.RAMEinBIO)

### III SESSIONE – IL FUTURO DEL RAME NELLA DIFESA FITOSANITARIA (Moderatore: Luca Colombo – FIRAB)

Il primo intervento di questa ultima sessione è stato tenuto da Carlo Bazzocchi (FIRAB) con la relazione dal titolo «L'impiego del rame nei diversi Paesi europei».





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## Strategie per la riduzione e possibili alternative all'utilizzo del rame in agricoltura biologica (ALT.RAMEinBIO)

Roma, il 14 giugno 2017

### L'IMPIEGO DEL RAME NEI DIVERSI PAESI EUROPEI



*Carlo Bazzocchi*

**Reg. 834/2007**

**Reg. 889/2008**

**Allegato 1 – CONCIMI**  
**Allegato 2 - FITOSANITARI**



### **IMPIEGO DEI CONCIMI - NORME GENERALI**

**Se le tecniche di lavorazione non consentono di soddisfare le esigenze nutrizionali, è consentito utilizzare solo i concimi e gli ammendanti inseriti in all'allegato I del Reg. CE 889/08 e solo nei limiti del necessario.**

**(Reg. CE 889/2008 – art. 3, punto 1)**

**Gli operatori conservano i documenti giustificativi che attestano la necessità di ricorrere a tali prodotti.**

**(Reg. CE 889/2008 – art. 3, punto 1)**

**Microelementi inorganici elencati nella parte E dell'allegato I del Reg. (CE) n. 2003/2003**

**(Reg. CE 889/2008 – Allegato 1)**



### FITOSANITARI - NORME GENERALI

**Nei casi in cui le azioni di prevenzione non consentano di proteggere adeguatamente i vegetali contro i parassiti e le malattie, nell'ambito della produzione biologica è consentito utilizzare solo i prodotti di cui all'allegato II del reg. CE 889/08. (Reg. CE 889/2008 art. 5 , punto 1)**

**Gli operatori conservano i documenti giustificativi che attestano la necessità di ricorrere a tali prodotti.**

**(Reg. CE 889/2008 art. 5 , punto 1)**

**Rame ... max kg/ha/anno 6 o per le perenni 30 kg in 5 anni**

**(Reg. CE 889/2008 Allegato 2)**



## IL RAME NELLA NORMA DEL BIO

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La s.a. autorizzata è lo ione Cu ed i suoi composti sono immessi sul mercato sotto la forma chimica di:

- idrossido di rame
- ossicloruro di rame
- ossido di rame
- poltiglia bordolese
- solfato di rame tribasico



- P.F. (PPP): 136.055\*
- fungicidi: 69.537\*
  - s.a. (p.a.) dei P.F. sono: 63.322\*
    - di cui fungicide: 38.887\*
- **Rame (s.a.) in Italia 5.894\* (circa il 30% della UE)**

*(\*: dati AGRI-ISTAT 2015 – in T)*





## AUTORIZZAZIONI NAZIONALI IN EU

**AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EL, ES, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, UK (= 22/28 o 27)**

<b>Substance:</b>	<b>Authorised:</b>
<b>Bordeaux mixture</b>	<b>BE, CY, EL, HU, IT, MT, PT, RO, SI</b>
<b>Copper hydroxide</b>	<b>AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EL, ES, HR, HU, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK</b>
<b>Copper oxide</b>	<b>CY, EL, ES, HR, HU, IT, PT, SI</b>
<b>Copper oxychloride</b>	<b>AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EL, ES, HR, HU, IT, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, UK</b>
<b>Tribasic copper sulfate</b>	<b>AT, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EL, ES, FR, HR, HU, IT, LU, PT, RO, SI, SK</b>

**Non autorizzati in: DK, EE, FI, NL, SE - IE (?)**



### **EUROPA:**

**Austria**

**Rep. Ceca**

**Germania**

### **ITALIA:**

**-Emilia-Romagna**

**-Toscana**

**-Altre**



## E DOMANI?

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**FITOSANITARIO:  
limitazione al 2018**

**FERTILIZZANTE:  
limitazione nei formulati commerciali  
limitazione nella dose d'impiego  
apporto secondo il calcolo degli asporti**

**E IL CONTROLLO**





## Strategie per la riduzione e possibili alternative all'utilizzo del rame in agricoltura biologica (ALT.RAMEinBIO)

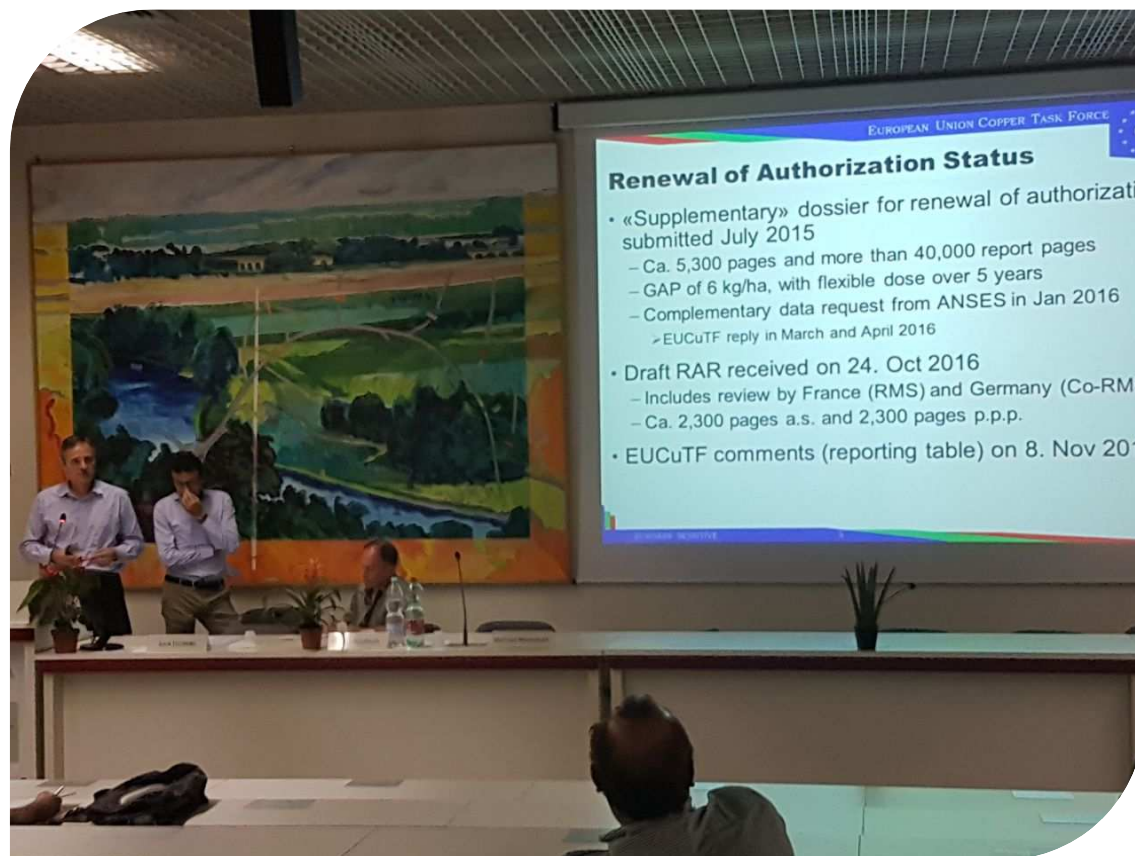
**GRAZIE PER L'ATTENZIONE**



***Carlo Bazzocchi***

### III SESSIONE – IL FUTURO DEL RAME NELLA DIFESA FITOSANITARIA (Moderatore: Luca Colombo – FIRAB)

La sessione si è chiusa con la relazione dal titolo «*Situazione attuale e prospettive sull'uso del rame*» tenuta dal dott. Matthias Weidenauer (Chairman European Task Force Copper).





crea / mipaaf  
Convegno

Situazione attuale e prospettive sull'uso  
del rame

Matthias Weidenauer  
European Union Copper Task Force (EUCuTF)

Roma, 14. giugno 2017





# European Union Copper Task Force

- **13 member companies**

Albaugh Europe SARL  
Cinkarna - Metallurgical & Chemical Industry Celje, INC.  
Erachem Comilog SPRL  
Industrias Quimicas Del Valles, S.A.  
Isagro S.p.A.  
Kocide LLC  
Manica SpA  
Montanwerke Brixlegg AG  
Nordox AS  
Nufarm GmbH & Co KG  
Sales y Derivados de Cobre S.A.  
Spiess-Urania Chemicals GmbH  
UPL Europe Ltd.

- **Objective: Renewal of authorization of Copper compounds according to regulation (EU) 1107/2009**

- Copper hydroxide
- Copper oxychloride
- Copper(I)oxide
- Bordeaux mixture
- Tribasic copper sulphate



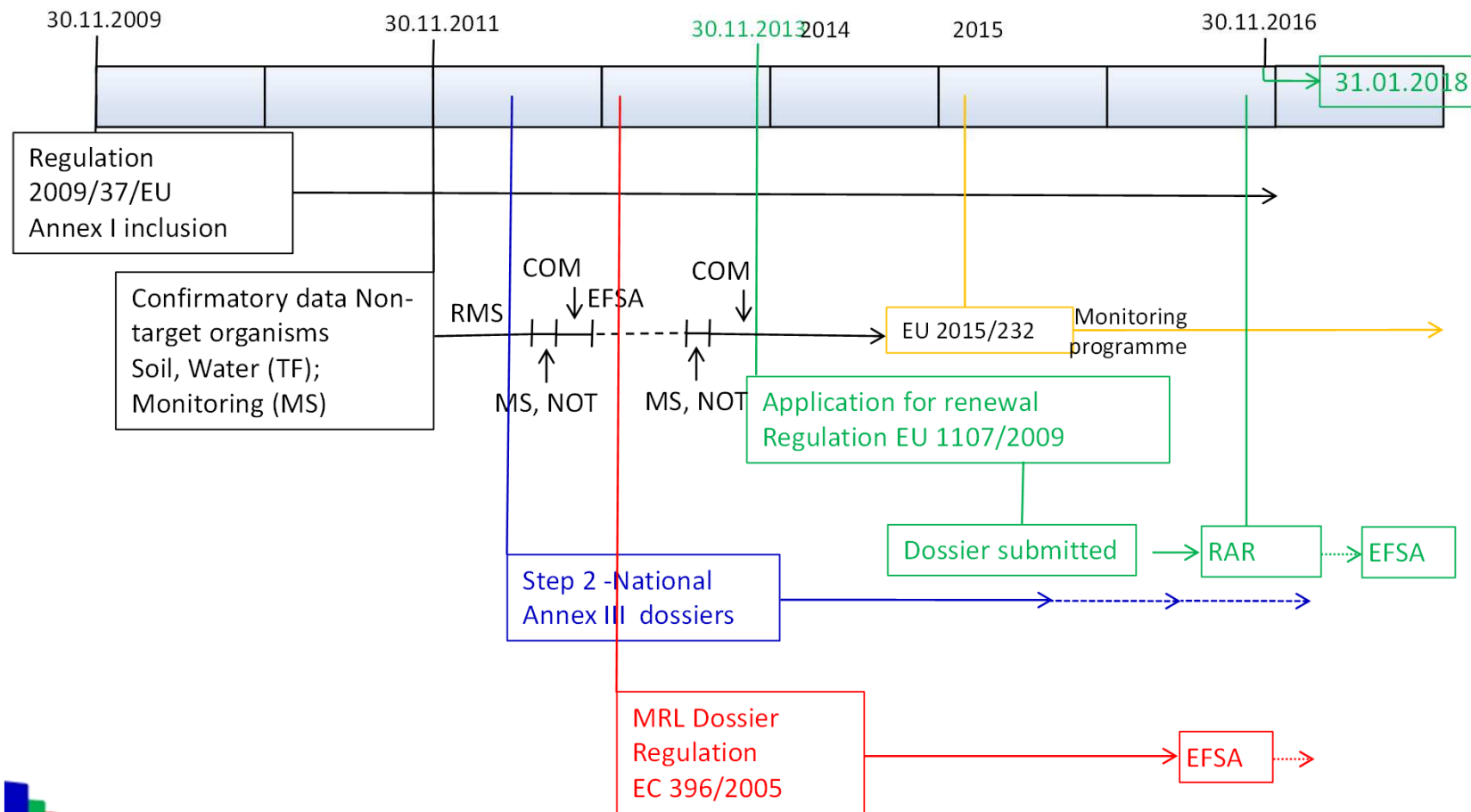
# European Union Copper Task Force

- Formed in July 2000 by 11 companies
- Objective: Re-registration of Copper compounds under Directive 91/414
  - GAP of 8 kg/ha, safe use vine and tomato
- Battelle took over EUCuTF chair in 2009/2010
- Amended objective:
  - Renewal of authorization of Copper compounds according to regulation (EU) 1107/2009
  - GAP of 6 kg/ha, flexible dose (30 kg/ha in 5 years)
- Further agreed scope:
  - MRL submission, general Step 2 support





# Status of Authorization in the EU





# Renewal of Authorization Status

- «Supplementary» dossier for renewal of authorization submitted July 2015
  - Ca. 5,300 pages and more than 40,000 report pages
  - GAP of 6 kg/ha, with flexible dose over 5 years
  - Complementary data request from ANSES in Jan 2016
    - EUCuTF reply in March and April 2016
- Draft RAR received on 24. Oct 2016
  - Includes review by France (RMS) and Germany (Co-RMS)
  - Ca. 2,300 pages a.s. and 2,300 pages p.p.p.
- EUCuTF comments (reporting table) on 8. Nov 2016



## Renewal of Authorization Status (2)

- RAR received on 16. Dec 2016
  - corrections made on formal issues
  - some changes to content
  - forwarded by RMS to EFSA
- EFSA requested sanitized RAR on 3. Jan 2017
  - uploaded 17. Jan 2017
  - published 2. Feb 2017
- EFSA invitation to comment on 3. Feb 2017
  - 60d period for applicant, EFSA, MS
- EUCuTF comments (reporting table) on 5. Apr 2017



## Renewal of Authorization Status (3)

- RMS invitation to comment on EFSA and MS comments on 20. Apr 2017
  - consolidated reporting table of 230 pages
  - Comments from EFSA, PL, DK, SI, NL, DE, UK
  - Comments from FNAB, AVC (Assoc. Vet. Cons.)
- EUCuTF comments (reporting table) on 4. May 2017
- RMS compiled their final reply to EFSA
  - Call RMS / EFSA on 1st June 2017
- Request for additional data received last week
  - Due 10 July 2017
- Will now start EFSA peer review (4-6 months)



## RAR Summary

- Proposed decision: Copper compounds can be approved under regulation EC 1107/2009
  - However, risk not acceptable for uses >4 kg/ha
  - EUCuTF disagrees with this
- Assessments often read like
  - The study is acceptable, however...
- or
  - The RMS acknowledged that Notifier included an extensive data package...with the latest scientific knowledge on copper bioavailability...
  - However, RMS doesn't agree with...



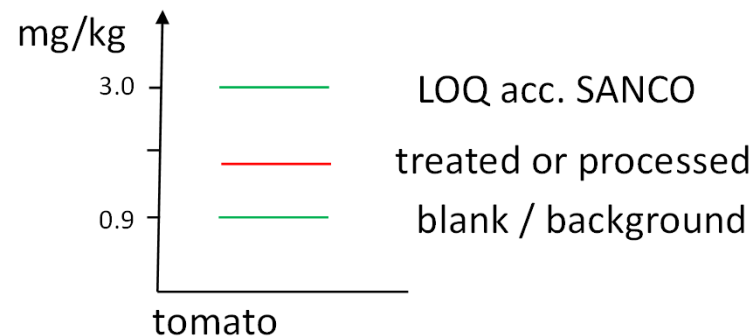
# Copper – A Different Pesticide

- Essential micronutrient
- Ubiquitous
- Metal
- High degree of homeostatic control
  
- Evaluation according to rules often not possible and not appropriate
  - Models not applicable to metals
  - Any assessment factor overly conservative
  - Is the precautionary principle appropriate for an essential micronutrient?
  - Many «issues» are not real but due to evaluation principles



# Analytical Methods

- Assessed according to SANCO/3029/99 rev.4 or SANCO/825/00 rev. 8.1
  - Selectivity requires blank values not to exceed 30% of LOQ
- EUCuTF validated several methods for tomato:



- Tomatoes do not grow without copper, hence either selectivity or LOQ is not found appropriate!



# Copper – Candidate for Substitution

- Cu listed as CfS under 1107/2009 based on PBT criteria
  - **P**ersistence
  - **B**ioaccumulation ✓
  - **T**oxicity
- PBT not appropriate ✓ for inorganic compounds
  - REACH & BPR Regulations do not apply PBT for inorganics
  - omitted in pesticide guidance
- EUCuTF requested COM to harmonize approach for all chemicals





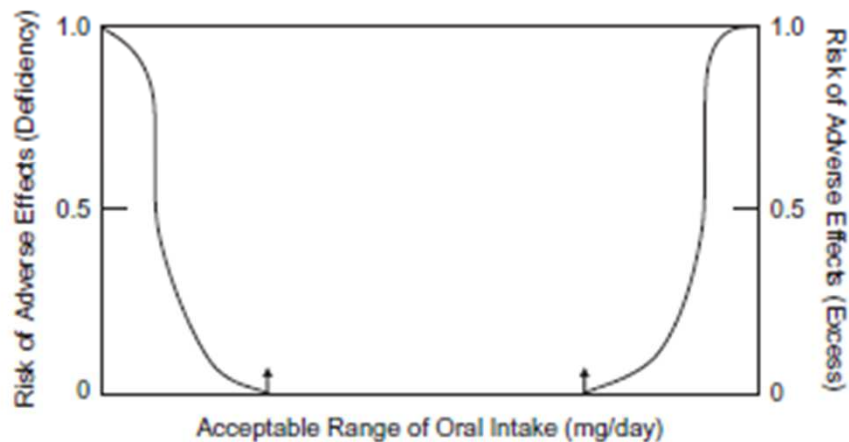
## Copper: CfS (2)

- List published on 12.Mar. 2015
  - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/408
  - Letter of complaint 19. May 2015
    - Rejected, procedure only open to Member States
  - Appeal filed on 5. Jun 2015 (updated in July, published on 7 Sep 15)
    - Appeal inadmissible on 29. Oct 2015
- Case likely to be dismissed by the Court of Justice: no impact, not directly concerned
  - Subject of appeal not assessed; EUCuTF will pursue case once a comparative risk assessment has been performed
- ECJ notified the EUCuTF of a hearing 6 Jun 2017
  - Outcome will be received in Sep. 2017

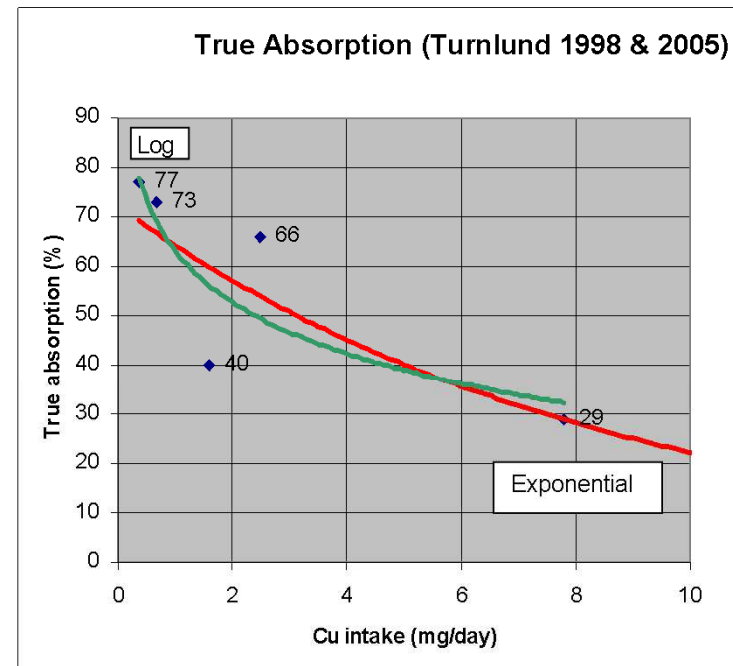


# Risk assessment for Cu

- Essential micronutrient
- Ubiquitous
- Metal
- Homeostatic control



Source: J Tox Env Health A, 73:114-127 2010



Source: VRAR



# Copper in the human body

- Healthy adult contains 70-90 mg Cu
- Daily intake 1 – 4 mg / d
  - Daily excretion estimated to 2 – 2.5 mg/d (feces, urine, skin, sweat, saliva, menses)
- Copper in organs
  - Liver 5 mg/kg for adults, 19 mg/kg for infants
  - Brain 6 mg/kg for adults, 4 mg/kg for infants
  - Heart, kidney 2-3 mg/kg
- Copper in blood and fluids
  - 1 to 1.5 mg/L in blood, mainly bound to ceruloplasmin
    - Double during pregnancy
  - All fluids of the body (incl. sweat) contain Cu complexes



# AOEL and Exposure to Operator, Worker and Resident

- AOEL is currently set at 0.072 mg/kg bw/d (2009)
  - This is at the lower end of the normal blood plasma content
    - AOEL could be >0.116 mg/kg/day
- EUCuTF has proposed 0.1 mg/kg bw/d
- Exposure: AOEL must not be exceeded
  - Exposure of operator and worker through inhalation and skin
  - Dermal Absorption
    - Extensive in-vitro Studies with Cu available
    - New studies with enriched stable Cu-65 isotope submitted



# AOEL and Exposure to Operator, Worker and Resident

- Worker exposure
  - New AOEM model to be used soon under 1107/2009 with high TF for vine
    - Creates general issue, not only for Cu
    - Dermal penetration main parameter



Study	EUCuTF	RMS / Agencies	Comments
In vitro 2003/4	0.12% / <5%*	Default values	
In vitro 2012	0.11% / 3.97%*	0.3% / 40%*	Extrapolation
In vitro 2015	0.1% / 1%*	1% / 9%*	Stable isotope, full spray dil.

\* for concentrated product / spray dilution

- RMS used “potentially absorbed Cu”
  - A study is underway to show that this is not appropriate
  - **Copper is safe for humans (consumer, operator, residents & bystander)**



# Ecotox risk assessment for Cu

- Risk defined as quotient toxicity over exposition:

$$\text{TER} = \frac{\text{NOEC}}{\text{PEC}}$$

- NOEC: no observed effect concentration
  - PEC: predicted environmental concentration in the compartment
  - acceptable TER usually includes an assessment factor
- Standard PEC models not applicable for Cu
  - Toxicity of Cu strongly dependent on speciation
    - Lab studies need to be assessed with caution
  - Assessment factor for essential element?



# Non target organisms: birds

- Estimated theoretical exposure:

$$ETE = (FIR/bw) * C * AV * PT * PD \text{ [mg/kg bw/d]}$$

FIR = Food intake rate;

bw = Body weight

C = Cu concentration in diet(mg/kg);

AV = Avoidance factor

PT = Diet part from treated area; PD = Part of diet



- Risk assessment using defaults

$$TER = \frac{NOEL}{ETE} = \frac{5.05}{0.4 * 10 * 1 * 1 * 1} = \frac{5.05}{4} \Rightarrow \text{Risk } .26 (>5)$$

- Refinement of model:

- Residue studies conducted to measure Cu in different food items (grass, insects, etc..)
- Conc = 15-20 mg/kg in insects **before** Cu application



# Non target organisms: birds

- Refinement of model:
    - Model indicates risk even at Cu concentrations in food items of the untreated control plot!
      - Standard model not applicable for Cu!
  - Literature study and expert judgement
    - « weight of evidence » approach
  - No adverse effect on reproduction success and bird population
    - as long as 5 kg/ha are not exceeded during reproduction phase
- Not a «real world» issue, but again model driven







# Aquatic exposure



Drift



'Non-equilibrium' in ditch:  
non-pesticide PNEC  
5.5 – 7.4  $\mu\text{g/L}$



'Equilibrium' in ditch  
non-pesticide PNEC 22.1  $\mu\text{g/L}$



River: non-pesticide PNEC  
7.8 – 17.6  $\mu\text{g/L}$



Lake: non-pesticide PNEC  
10.6 – 11.5  $\mu\text{g/L}$

- Standard PEC models not applicable for Cu
  - Speciation, bio-availability, solubility, distribution



# Aquatic Organisms

- Exposure
  - PEC<sub>sw</sub> submitted up to ca. 4 µg/L (5 m)
- Toxicity endpoint (RAC)
  - Derived from mesocosm: 4.8 µg/L diss. Cu
    - SSDs show fish is not most sensitive species
- RAR:
  - Different endpoint derived from fish SSD plus Assessment factors RAC <1 µg/L to 2 µg/L
  - This is below natural background: mean 0.6 µg/L and 90th percentile 2.4 µg/L!



➤ Addition of several worst-case assumptions plus application of assessment factors are not an adequate way to assess Cu



# Non Target Terrestrial Organisms

- Using all available data from
  - Literature and lab studies (normalized)
  - GLP field study and biomonitoring
- A consistent RAC of  $> 150$  mg/kg Cu in soil was derived for earthworm
  - Toxicity / bio-availability as function of soil type
- Concluded no issue for arable crops and orchards
- Concluded safe uses for vine exist
  - with eventual restrictions for sites with high Cu content and unfavorable soil type
- Combination of dose rate and soil content matters





# Non Target Terrestrial Organisms

- Earthworms GLP field study completed by the EUCuTF after 10 years and submitted
  - No statistically significant effects at 4 kg/ha/y and 8 kg/ha/y
  - Confirmed by an Expert panel opinion
- The RMS position (RAC 4 kg/ha) does not do justice to the complexity of the system with annual application, decrease in bio-availability and aged soil Cu
  - EUCuTF will re-convene an expert panel and further generate and evaluate data (incl. biomonitoring data)





# Copper as Plant Protection Product

- As sole applicant the EUCuTF continues to support Copper compounds as active substance
  - Defending 6 kg/ha flexible dose and organic farming needs
    - 2016 season demonstrated appropriateness of approach
    - Underrated benefits, e.g. bacterial diseases will amplify its need
- Rare opportunity for agriculture to maintain an essential element as a fungicide
- Avoid simplistic EU wide restriction to a dose rate that is not efficacious
  - Does not take into account local situation in a MS and unnecessarily increases need for exemption authorizations
  - Promotes misuse of Cu fertilizer
- Find a way to agree on Cu specific assessments



Thank you very much !



I lavori del Convegno sono stati chiusi dalla dott.ssa Anna La Torre, coordinatore del progetto, che, dopo aver ringraziato relatori e partecipanti, ha tirato le conclusioni della giornata.



**Strategie per la riduzione e  
possibili alternative  
all'utilizzo del rame in  
agricoltura biologica  
ALT.RAMEinBIO**

*Con il patrocinio  
dell'Associazione Italiana per  
la Protezione delle Piante  
(AIPP)*



Progetto di ricerca ALT.RAMEinBIO finanziato dall'Ufficio PQAI I -  
Agricoltura Biologica e Sistemi di qualità alimentare nazionale e affari  
generali del Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali  
con D.M. 92705/2014



Grafica di Valerio Battaglia CREA-DC Roma