

Pesticide Risk Mitigation Engine

Policy on Internationalization

Goals:

1. Development of an ethically sustainable procedure for extension to international settings in different agricultural biomes where the underlying ecological contexts differ from those within which the risk tools were developed.
2. Consideration of how to address risk assessment tools for agricultural systems that lack other forms of regulatory support and infrastructure.
3. To outline principles of free access for developing countries, and to address language of delivery.

General policies:

1. All tools and indexes will define the most appropriate agro-ecological zones or terrestrial biomes for their application, and precautionary statements will be provided for applications beyond these limits.
2. Inappropriate applications will also be identified and appropriate warnings given.
3. Procedures will be developed to identify special features associated with international agricultural biomes, where caution may need to be applied. These procedures will identify sensitive taxa, sensitive ecological functions, differences in exposure scenarios and differences in susceptibilities that might affect the applicability of the risk assessment tools or interpretation of their output.
4. In agricultural systems where other forms of regulatory support are weak or lacking (i.e. large segments of the developing world), the tool may assume a high level of importance for producers groups, researchers or advisors. The CIG team has particular responsibility in these cases to provide risk communication tools that enable the role and purpose of the tools, the application of results and their interpretation to be made clear. The development of these tools may depend upon additional support, and these funds will be sought as required.
5. The tools will be freely accessible, in their basic form to users in the developing world. Although English will be the language of initial application, the tools will be developed in accordance with Agricultural Information Management Standards (AGROVOC: http://www.fao.org/aims/ag_intro.htm), and our eventual goal is to offer the tools in

multiple languages, subject to funding. Alternate skins for the website will be developed to customize views, prompts, etc. for international users.

6. The preferred method of pesticide selection among growers will be formulated products. For use in the U.S., products will be identified by EPA registration number. In Canada, products will be identified by Pest Control Products Number (PCP#). However, in many cases, we will not have a list of trade names for international use. In these cases, the tool's pesticide lookup function will allow users to search active ingredients by name or CAS number. The AI database will also include alternate spellings for international use.
7. For countries where detailed soils data are available (e.g. Canada, EU), the tool will function similar to the U.S. version. In countries where soil data are limited or non-existent, the tool may have more limited functionality for indices where soils data are required (e.g. aquatic indices). Limitations will be clearly defined and efforts made to increase international functionality in the long term.