

# Plant Protection Products

**Shirley Mifsud**

*Market Surveillance Directorate*

**Malta Standards Authority**

## Purpose of the meeting

◆ INFORMATION

◆ AWARENESS

## Definitions

### Pesticide

#### Plant Protection Product

#### Biocide

Active substances and preparations intended to:

- Protect plants or plant products against harmful organisms or prevent the action of such organisms
- Influence the life processes of plants other than as a nutrient
- Preserve plant products
- Destroy undesired plants
- Destroy parts of plants, check or prevent undesired growth of plants

Active substances and preparations intended to:

- destroy, deter, render harmless, prevent the action of, or exert a controlling effect on any harmful organism by chemical or biological means.

### Definitions cont...

**“active substance”** chemical substances or micro organisms including viruses, which have a general or specific action against harmful organisms or on plants or plant products

**“dealing”** any activity in the manufacture, import, export, transport, storage, distribution, presenting for sale or sale of any plant protection product

**“placing on the market”** any importation or supply of a pesticide, followed by consignment or disposal, whether in return for payment or free of charge, other than for storage

**“authorization”** The first time a Plant Protection Product enters the EU market to be used in an EU country

**“registration”** When the PPP is already authorized to be used in an EU country but needs to be registered in order to be legal to be used in Malta

## INFORMATION

### Information required to be submitted to MSA for AUTHORIZATION of a PPP

1. An application form for the Authorization/Registration of a Plant Protection Product. This can be downloaded from the MSA web site [www.msa.gtg.mt](http://www.msa.gtg.mt)
2. Dossier describing the properties of the active substance in accordance with Annex II To Council Directive 91/414/EC
3. Label in Maltese and English versions. The Maltese version should be with the Maltese font
4. Safety Data Sheet of the Plant Protection Product

*Information cont...*

### Information required to be submitted to MSA for REGISTRATION of a PPP

1. Letter of access from the data owner of the active ingredient of the Plant Protection Product that if needed he can grant access to the information regarding the active substances in the product
2. Labels in Maltese and English versions. The Maltese version should be with the Maltese font
3. Safety Data Sheet of the Plant Protection Product
4. Summary of the Dossier
5. Marketing authorization certificate from the authorization country e.g.. If authorized by Italy, authorization certificate issued by Ministero Della Salute

*Information cont...*

The MSA Director shall determine the application within 90 days from the date of receipt of the correctly filled application and applicable fee

An authorization/registration number will be issued by MSA after approval of the application. This number has to be printed on both the Maltese and English versions of the labels

*Information cont...*

**Labeling requirements for Plant Protection Products**

**The labeling of any PPP must show clearly and indelibly:**

1. Trade name of the PPP
2. Name and address of the holder of the authorization and the authorization number of the PPP, if different, the name and address of the person responsible for the final packaging and labeling of the PPP
3. Name of each active substance and amount of each active substance as a percentage of the product formulation
4. Net quantity of the PPP
5. Batch number or some other standard means of identifying the individual batch

**Information cont...**

6. The nature of any special risks for human beings, animals or the environment
7. Any safety precautions for the protection of human beings, animals or the environment
8. Mode of action of the PPP
9. Type of preparation found within the container or package
10. Use or uses for which the PPP has been authorized
11. The corresponding directions for use and the recommended or permitted dose rate.

*(expressed both in metric units originally printed on the label where the product has been authorized as well as in g/mg/l/ml per liter and/or per tumolo, for each use provided for under the terms of the authorization.*

*Dose rates in g/mg/l/ml per liter and/or tumolo shall be present on labels printed as of three months after the publication of the new legal notice).*

**Information cont...**

13. Any special agricultural, plant health or environmental condition under which the plant protection product may or may not be used
14. Where necessary the safety interval between the last application of the PPP and sowing or planting of the crop to be protected, sowing or planting of succeeding crops, entry by human beings or domestic animals in the area, produce harvesting, the use, offering for sale or consumption of the crop, or application
15. Details of possible undesired phytotoxicity or varietal susceptibility or any other direct or indirect effect of the PPP
16. Directions for safe disposal of the PPP or its packaging
17. Expiry date of the product stored under recommended conditions
18. Recommended conditions for storage

# AWERENESS

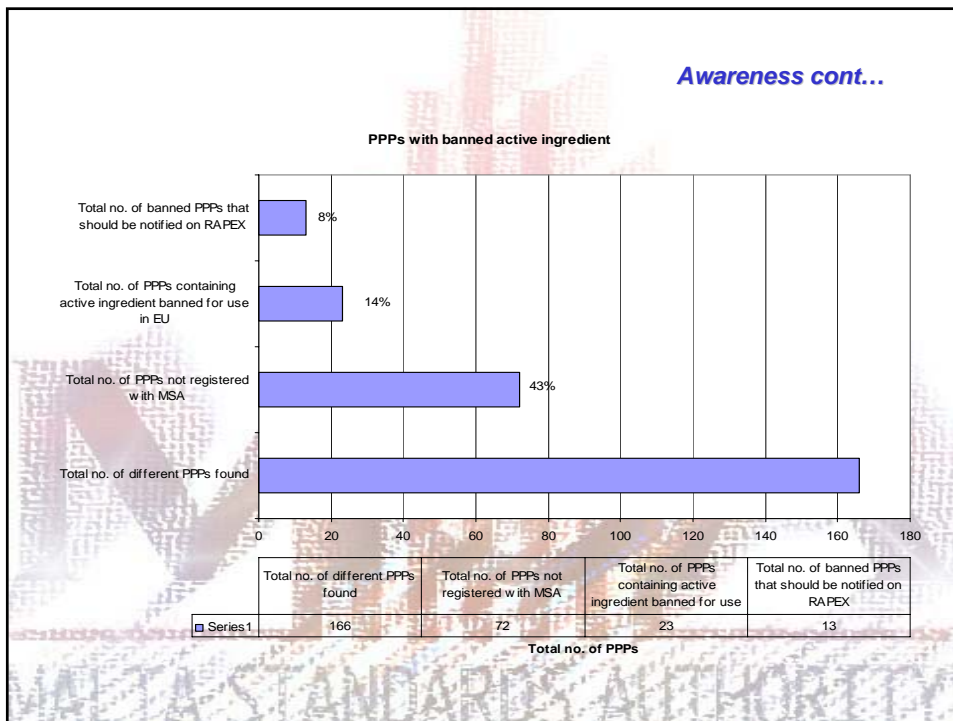
Results for Quarter 1, 2009

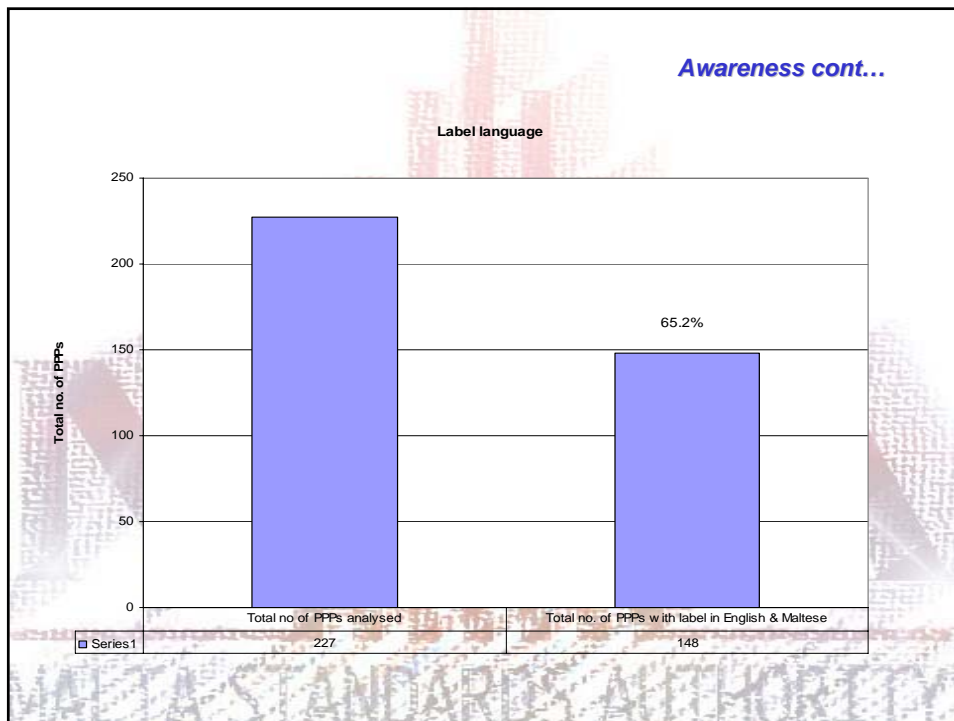
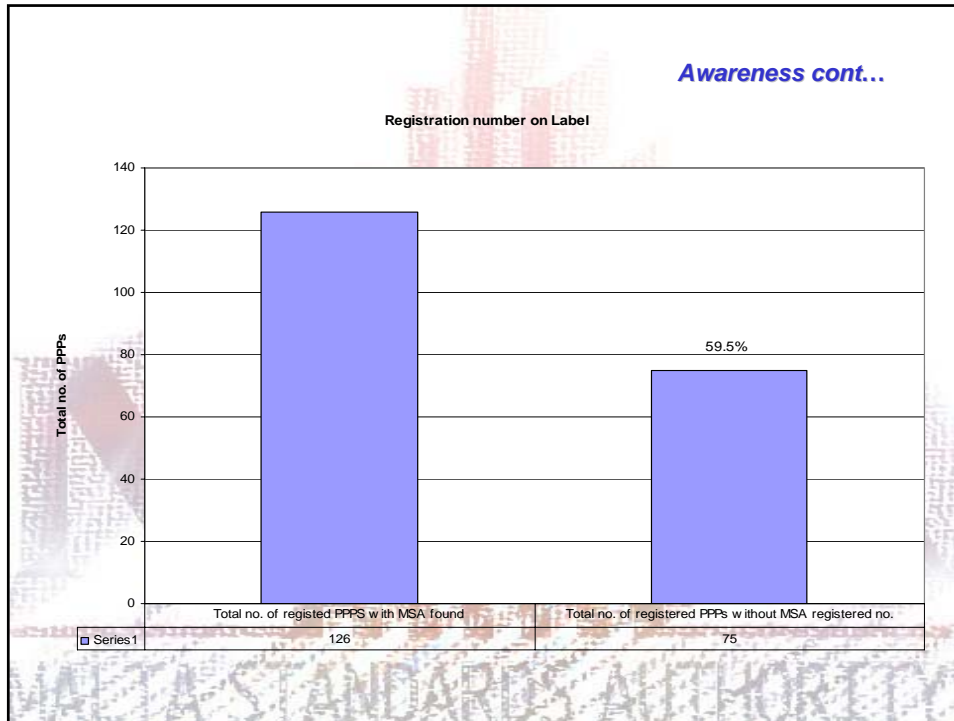
Number of outlets analyzed = **20** (covering both Malta & Gozo)

Total number of products checked = **227**

Total number of different PPPs found = **166**

Total number of PPPs found which are not registered with MSA = **72**





*Awareness cont...*

**Potential Health Effect of Plant Protection Products**

- Hazardous to who is applying the PPP
- Hazardous to who will eat the produce if the PPP is not correctly applied or banned PPPs are used

Person applying PPP	Person eating produce
1. Irritation to the skin & eyes	1. Effects on central nervous system
2. Irritation to respiratory tract	2. Effects on reproduction
3. Allergic contact dermatitis	3. Miscarriages and birth defects
4. Nausea and vomiting	4. Cancer
5. Intestinal pain and diarrhea	5. Suspected link with Parkinson's disease

**Way forward**

**Compromise between responsible authorities and dealers of Plant Protection Products**

1. Authorization/Registration of PPPs – A period of days is being given to all dealers to regularize their situation (i.e register all their products and remove from the shelves and appropriately dispose of banned PPPs)
2. A new import certificate will need to be presented to customs in order to release the PPPs. This certificate shall be signed by MSA director as approval for the importation of the said PPPs (still to be confirmed the exact procedure)

**Way forward cont...**

3. Enhance market surveillance by MSA authorized officials

4. Penalties as in Pesticides Control Act

*First conviction: Fine not exceeding 1,164.69 euros or imprisonment for not more than 3 months or to both fine and imprisonment*

*Second conviction: Fine not exceeding 2329.37 euros or imprisonment for not more than 6 months or to both fine and imprisonment*

5. MOST IMPORTANT

**COOPERATION BETWEEN  
AUTHORITIES AND DEALERS**

**For further details contact:**

*Ms Joanne Galea*

Malta Standards Authority

Regulatory Affairs Directorate

Food, Chemicals, Cosmetics, and Pesticides Unit

Second Floor, Evans Building,

Merchant Str, Valletta VLT 1179, Malta

Tel: +356 23952000

E-mail: [joanne.galea@msa.org.mt](mailto:joanne.galea@msa.org.mt)

*Ms Shirley Mifsud*

Malta Standards Authority

Market Surveillance Directorate

Second Floor, Evans Building,

Merchant Str, Valletta VLT 1179, Malta

Tel: +356 23952000

E-mail: [shirley.mifsud@msa.org.mt](mailto:shirley.mifsud@msa.org.mt)

