



Grange,
SANTE/E3/ [REDACTED]

MEETING SUMMARY

46th CIBE Congress – International Confederation of European Beet Growers 02 June 2022

[REDACTED] was invited to give a presentation on the SUR and F2F targets. Standard presentation on the targets and main policy areas being considered.

Q1 on need for data and the resource that this would cost farmers, too much money and time. [REDACTED] responded that most farmers had systems in place via commercial software and that the idea of digital collection was to reduce burden not increase it.

Q2 IPM; farmers were doing this already and they shouldn't have to demonstrate it. [REDACTED] explained that having records was important to be able to demonstrate and the standards designed to assist farmers in meeting legal standards

Q3. Alternatives- there weren't enough and they were too expensive. [REDACTED] responded we were doing a lot to bring products to the market and to improve the timescales, but the aim was for a transition not an immediate change

Q4 Was there a role for organic? Was there a big enough market for organic products? [REDACTED] indicated that the plan for increase should help the reduction of pesticides, but the extent would depend on the type of organic area in each MS, and that there was an action plan prepared to increase organic market

Q5 what is a farmer supposed to do when pesticides are eliminated. [REDACTED] responded there was a need for alternatives, we weren't banning all pesticides. Seems though this question was particularly because of the ban on neonics.

Q6 Comment on the war and the need for increased production, and the losses from reducing pesticides. [REDACTED] responded that the need was to stop biodiversity loss. May be short term reduction in some crops but we are talking about a transition and improving medium term.

Q7 how do we get access to advisors, there are very few in Germany and not independent. [REDACTED] agreed independent advice over a time period was important and that there were different approaches across MS. DG AGRI supported a network of AKIS advice.

The host speaker was rather hostile and took only the negative messages, the following presentation from MEP Muller supported the general approach of pesticide reduction but the need for farmers to be on board and have support