



DIE AKADEMIE
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Where Experts Meet!

3rd International Akademie Fresenius Conference

Digital Agriculture

Regulatory and Scientific Aspects of Precision Application

+++ HYBRID EDITION +++

17 and 18 November 2026
in Cologne/Germany

Highlights

- EUPAF real-world case study: Thistle control in sugar beet
- Drone applications – towards a responsible commercial market for agricultural drone application
- Precision-ready crop protection products – reformulating PPPs for smaller-capacity robotic application systems
- EFSA perspective on precision application – regulatory developments, key risk assessment challenges and future methodological work
- Precision application in orchards – First draft of the Inventory for 3D Crops
- From the farmer's perspective: Data privacy and data sovereignty in agriculture



The Experts

Anne Alix Corteva Agriscience | **Johan Booij** Wageningen University & Research | **Hugh Dawick** Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) | **Joachim Dressel** Syngenta | **Malcolm Faers** Bayer | **Anand Gavai** Free University of Amsterdam | **Emilio Gil** Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC) | **Bernhard Gottesbueren** Make-Sense Consulting | **Peter Hloben** John Deere / CEMA | **Rena Isemer** Bayer | **Graham Mullier** CropLife Europe / Syngenta | **Jorge Olivares Rivas** knoell | **Laura Padovani** European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) | **Andy Sproson** AutoSpray Systems | **Grant Stark** The Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) / Health & Safety Executive (HSE) | **Gerrit van Steenberg** Wageningen University & Research

INSTITUT
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SGS

Tuesday, 17 November 2026

Timings are in Central European Time [CET](#).



Morning Session | 09:15 – 12:35 CET

All presentation slots include dedicated time for discussion and exchange with the audience.

09:15 Welcome Address by the organisers and the chairs

Anne Alix, Corteva Agriscience, United Kingdom

Grant Stark, Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) / Health & Safety Executive (HSE), United Kingdom

International Perspective

09:30 Outcomes and Recommendations Arising from an OECD Co-operative Research Programme Sponsored Event – Enabling Precision Application of Crop Protection Products by Inclusion in Regulatory Approaches

- Precision Application in Australia and goal of conference
- Conference format and topics of discussion
- Major outcomes and conclusions in terms of policy relevance
- Recommendations

Hugh Dawick, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Australia (virtual presentation)

Technology – Challenges and Opportunities

10:05 From Slug Pellets to a Responsible Commercial Market for Agricultural Drone Application

- Steps towards applying a drone application label on a PPP and the indications for near-term product approvals and operating opportunities in Europe
- From label permission to defensible field delivery: The role of professionally operating drone companies
- The OECD and UAPASTF work on drift, exposure, residues, field-study protocols and best practice in support of proportionate regulation

Andy Sproson, AutoSpray Systems, United Kingdom

10:40 Coffee break

11:10 Product Reformulation for Small-capacity Robotic Machinery: Opportunities and Challenges

Malcolm Faers, Bayer, France

Precision Application in Regulatory Practice

11:45 EFSA Activities and Perspectives on Precision Application Techniques in Plant Protection Product Risk Assessment

- Overview of EFSA activities related to precision application techniques
- Key regulatory risk assessment questions
- Possible areas for future discussion and further methodological work

Laura Padovani, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Italy (virtual presentation)

12:20 Lunch break



Afternoon Session | 14:00 – 17:00 CET

14:00 Real World Example: An EUPAF Approach to Precision Application of Thistle Control in Sugar Beet – Extended Presentation

- Introduction
Grant Stark, Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) / Health & Safety Executive (HSE), United Kingdom
- Developing the GAP (Good Agricultural Practice)
Joachim Dressel, Syngenta, Switzerland
- Challenges with risk assessment
Bernhard Gottesbueren, Make-Sense Consulting, **Rena Isemer**, Bayer, Germany
- Case study
Anne Alix, Corteva Agriscience, United Kingdom

14:45 Precision Application in Orchards – First Draft of the Inventory for 3D Crops

Emilio Gil, Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC), Spain

15:20 Coffee break

15:50 The Role of Digital Labels in Delivering Precision Applications

Graham Mullier, CropLife Europe / Syngenta, United Kingdom

16:25 Panel Discussion Regulatory Challenges

17:00 End of the first day

18:00 Evening event

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Information available online at: www.akademie-fresenius.com/digitalagriculture



After the first conference day you are most welcome to attend our evening event for an unhurried evening of good food and leisure time. Please, join us to continue the day's interesting discussions in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.

Timings are in Central European Time [CET](#).

Wednesday, 18 November 2026

 **Morning Session | 09:30 – 13:10 CET**

All presentation slots include dedicated time for discussion and exchange with the audience.

09:30 Brief address by the chairs

Anne Alix, Corteva Agriscience, United Kingdom
Grant Stark, Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) /
Health & Safety Executive (HSE), United Kingdom

Digital Technologies: Support and Data Sharing for Farmers

09:45 Weed Prediction Tool (DSS-Weed) – a Farmer Support Tool for Real Time Applications Systems

Peter Hloben, John Deere / CEMA, Belgium

10:20 Enabling Results-Based Farm Management Through As-Applied Data Sharing

Johan Booij, Wageningen University & Research,
The Netherlands

10:55 Data Privacy and Data Sovereignty in Digital Agriculture: Building Trust for Farm Data Sharing

- The sensitivity of farm data and the reasons behind the farmer's hesitation to share them
- The advantages of federated, privacy-preserving and controlled data-sharing approaches to enable collaboration
- How governance, transparency and clear data-access rules can build trust between farmers, technology providers, manufacturers, laboratories and authorities

Anand Gavai, Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

11:30 Coffee break

Bridging Science and Regulation

12:00 The AGROS 2 Project: Drift studies and the progress in spot deposition measurement

Gerrit van Steenberg, Wageningen University & Research,
The Netherlands

12:35 Mechanistic Modelling with SPOTMOD – Metamodel and Regulatory Application

Jorge Olivares Rivas, Knoell, Germany

13:10 Lunch and end of the conference

On-site and in person or digitally via our Live Stream – the choice is yours!

Connect with your colleagues, clients and partners, network with old and new acquaintances – and just enjoy the on-site event in Cologne/Germany.

Should you have missed the opportunity to secure one of our on-site places – or prefer not to travel, you can follow the contributions and discussions from the location of your choice: Via our Live Stream!

 **Book now**



Information available online at: www.akademie-fresenius.com/digitalagriculture

Registration

By web www.akademie-fresenius.com/digitalagriculture
By email registration@akademie-fresenius.com

€ 1,995.00 plus VAT on-site in Cologne

Representatives of an authority or a public university are eligible for a reduced fee of € 895.00 plus VAT per person (please provide evidence). The reduced fee cannot be combined with other rebates.

Limited places available with a special fee of € 200,00 + VAT for pertinent competent authorities. If you are eligible, please contact us via email to anne.moeller@akademie-fresenius.de

€ 1,195.00 plus VAT Live Stream

Representatives of an authority or a public university are eligible for a reduced fee of € 695.00 plus VAT per person (please provide evidence). The reduced fee cannot be combined with other rebates.

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→ [Book now](#)

Do you have any questions?



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The Organisers

For more than 30 years, Akademie Fresenius has been your partner for practice-orientated training on all the latest topics surrounding the safety and quality of food, consumer goods and chemical products along the whole production chain. Our portfolio not only includes international conferences but also offers national trade meetings, intensive practical seminars and training in small work groups. Our events are designed to promote an active exchange amongst our participants and offer the perfect platform for bringing the industry, the scientific sector, the authorities and the consulting field together. Excellent service, all-inclusive. Our wide-ranging advanced training opportunities contribute to giving our customers the competitive edge in all quality assurance, risk assessment, legal, production and technical questions.

Akademie Fresenius is a joint venture between Carl Remigius Fresenius Education Group, one of the largest private and independent education groups in Germany, and SGS Institut Fresenius, one of the leading German providers of chemical laboratory analysis.

You can find details on upcoming and new events at www.akademie-fresenius.com

Who should attend this conference?

Groups that should take part:

- ✓ Managing directors, managers, consultants and scientists working in the field of Plant Protection Products and active substances
- ✓ Technical experts from research & development
- ✓ Agricultural technology experts
- ✓ Producers, distributors and downstream users of Plant Protection Products
- ✓ Risk assessors, toxicologists, ecotoxicologists, product stewards, regulators

Sectors that should take part:

- ✓ Agrochemical industry, agro-technological industry
- ✓ Biotech industry, research institutes, authorities
- ✓ Professional associations, contract laboratories/consultancies

Conference Venue

Best Western Plus Hotel Köln City
Innere Kanalstraße 15, 50823 Köln
Phone : +49 221 5701-0
Email: koeln@provenhotels.com
www.bestwestern-hotel-koeln.de

We have reserved a limited number of rooms for our participants at reduced rates at the hotel. These rooms can be booked up to four weeks prior to the start of the event. Please book early and directly through the hotel quoting "Akademie Fresenius" as reference.

Terms of Participation and Purchase: The registration fee includes the participation in the event, event documentation, and, in the case of on-site events, lunch, coffee breaks, beverages as well as the evening event. You will receive written confirmation of your registration. Upon receiving our invoice, please transfer the amount due without further deductions before the event begins. The price of the event documentation includes the login details for the secure download section of our webpage where you will find the presentations in a pdf format. The login details will be sent to you via email after the event and as soon as advance payment has been received.

Group Reductions: For joint bookings received from one company we grant a 15% discount from the third participant onwards.

Terms of Cancellation: For our on-site events, written cancellations or transfers will be accepted free of charge up to four weeks prior to the start of the event. After this date and up to a week prior to the start of the event we will reimburse 50% of the registration fee. We cannot, unfortunately, provide refunds for later cancellations. For our online events, cancellations or rebookings to another event will be accepted free of charge up to one week before the start of the event. In the event of later cancellations or non-login to the online event, no participation fees can be refunded. In this

case, however, you will receive access to the documentation download after the event. Please note that you can name a substitute participant free of charge at any time.

General Terms and Conditions: By registering, you agree to our General Terms and Conditions as well as to our Privacy Policy. You can find our GTC on the internet (www.akademie-fresenius.com/general-terms) or receive them on request.

Personal Data: The Akademie Fresenius will keep your data for the purpose of organising this event. We will under no circumstances use your data for commercial trade purposes. By registering for this event, you consent to our occasionally contacting you by mail, email or phone in order to provide you with further information from our company. You can, of course, withdraw your consent whenever you wish. At our on-site events, occasionally, we go around taking photos and videos which are then published anonymously on our website. During our online events, image and sound content is transmitted, which may originate from the speakers and from the participants. By registering, you agree that this content may be transmitted within the virtual event space. All participants are prohibited from recording this content. Further information can be found at: www.akademie-fresenius.com/dataprotection.

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