

# Workshop ‘Innovative arable crop protection – using pesticides sustainably’

Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
19-21 April 2023



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the European Union





# Ecostack

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# Alternative pest control strategies in oilseed rape crops

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**EcoStack**

## What is your project/initiative about?

**EcoStack** project develop and support ecologically, economically and socially sustainable crop production via stacking and protection of functional biodiversity.

The project provides with knowledge and tools to maximise ecosystem services for the production of crops, while minimising environmental impacts of agriculture and ensuring the profitability of farming.

The methods are e.g. mixed cropping, flower strips, grass strips, trap crops, promoting natural enemies etc.



## How do you contribute to a reduction of pesticide dependency in your work/project?

- › There are lots of challenges in the use of pesticides
  - › development of pesticide resistance
  - › environmental risks, demand for minimize the use of chemical control
  - › more and more chemical control products are out of markets (further acceptance denied)
- › In certain crops like oilseed rape, the effective chemical control products for insect control are very few, so there is an urgent demand to develop alternative, non-chemical control methods to pest control
- › Utilisation of new technologies for e.g. mechanical weed control is developed, mixed cropping is coming up again, also breeding for resistant cultivars is always important



## What are your experiences in the transition to sustainable arable cropping systems with reduced pesticide dependency? What challenges do you/did you face?

- › The alternative control methods do not usually give the same level of control as chemical products
- › There is a lack of suitable alternative methods, especially concerning biocontrol products
  - › also their effect at the large field-scale is limited
- › The alternative control methods are usually more expensive than chemical control and require more treatments



## What are the most important steps, from your perspective, towards pesticide independency?

- › To ensure crop yield and top quality food and feed production is still the most important
- › The aim towards sustainable use of pesticides including preventive measures like crop rotation, use of resistant cultivars and when possible by the use of alternative (biological / mechanical) control methods
- › Different kind of cultural practices are worth developing to achieve adequate enough pest control as well as to find the ways to promote the life of natural enemies





# Can you indicate which pillar(s) of the ICM is included in your example?

## Crop diversity

### > use of trap crops

- > Robust varieties
- > Soil Management
- > Targeted Control
- > Monitoring & Evaluation





# **EU CAP Network workshop**

## **‘Innovative arable crop protection - using pesticides sustainably’**

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All information on the workshop is available on the event webpage:

[https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-innovative-arable-crop-protection-using-pesticides-sustainably\\_en](https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-innovative-arable-crop-protection-using-pesticides-sustainably_en)

