OPTIMA

Redefining Pest Management - a Holistic Approach

Best Management Practices guidelines

Crop protection strategy and PPPs selection

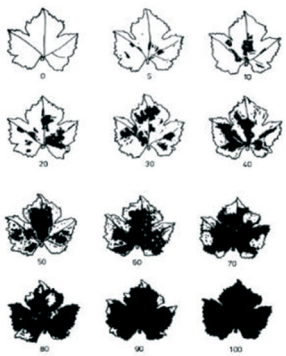
For the following crops: vineyards, apple orchards and open-field carrots



01

Follow an **IPM crop protection strategy** in accordance with EU and national regulations to **reduce** the use of synthetic or biological plant protection products (PPPs or bio-PPPs)

- ☐ Consider all the available alternatives in terms of PPPs allowed in IPM protocols at your site
- ☐ Prefer to use PPPs and combination of PPPs with less environmental impact



02

Select the **combination** of two or more PPPs to apply in one single treatment to achieve the **best efficacy**, while keeping the environmental risks low

- ☐ When mixing PPPs against a specific disease always verify their compatibility, the order they must be introduced in the sprayer and the synergy effect they can have
- ☐ Consider the need for specific formulations and/or use of additives for enhancing the miscibility and synergy of the PPPs

03

Define your crop protection strategy aiming to limit the number of treatments to the **minimum necessary**, considering the possibility to skip one or more applications when possible

- ☐ Establish which treatments are completely necessary and which could be omitted, without significantly impacting the quantity and quality of the yield
- ☐ Use prediction models and OPTIMA DSS to decide the best application timing

04

Adapt the PPP doses according to the **effective needs** of your crop in terms of **target size**, **canopy density**, **disease presence** and **severity**

- ☐ Adjust the PPP dose to the effective amount of vegetation and to the level of disease presence/outbreak probability /severity in the different zones of your fields
- ☐ Always verify the compatibility of the PPP doses effectively applied with the corresponding PPP label prescriptions to avoid under-dosing, which would imply biological inefficacy and risks to generate resistance phenomena

Find more info on our Library (optima-h2020.eu/library)

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