

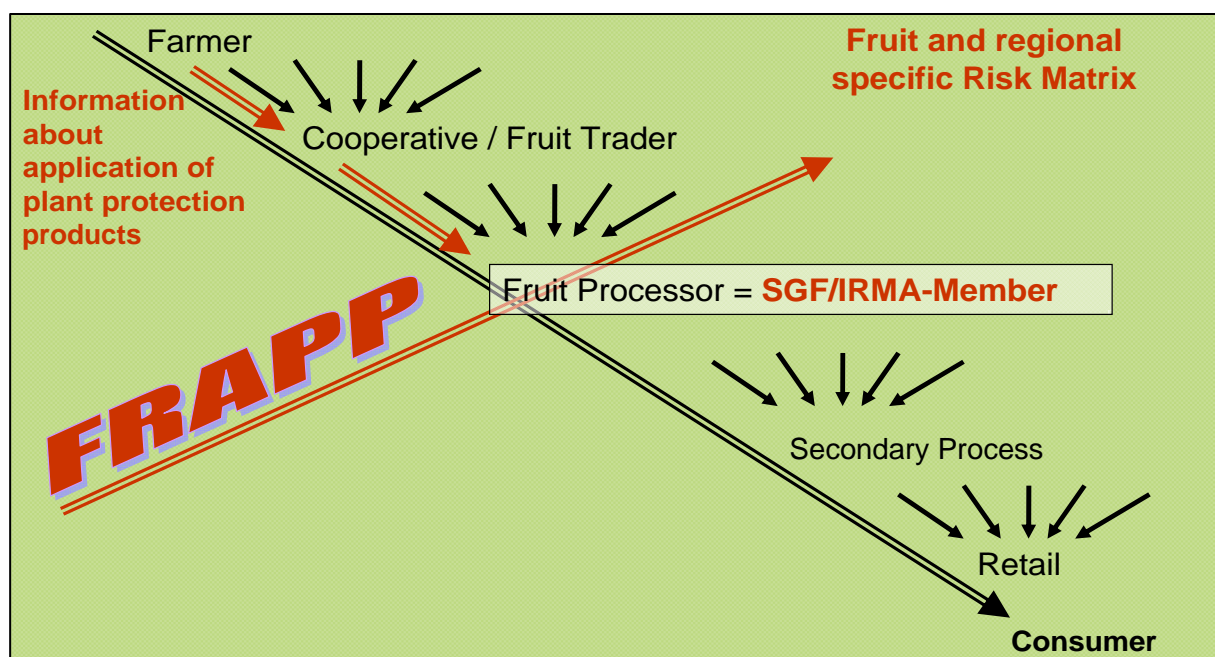
FRAPP

(Fruit Risk Assessment Programme for Pesticides)

a centralised strategy for a proactive food safety concept

Introduction

Since 2005 the Food Safety initiative FRAPP is collecting data about pesticide applications during the growth period for the fruit juice industry in the framework of the Voluntary Control System of SGF/IRMA. This data pool has been created with the initial intention to optimise analytical screening approaches. Due to very high blending rates in our industry for pesticide application a reasonable “tree to bottle traceability” is not possible in many cases; provided data would be too complex for suitable use in case of any problem. Therefore a mathematical approach was set up to provide a robust fruit and regional specific statistic of relevant safety parameters that have to be controlled. Nevertheless in a first step all individual data of applied substances must be compiled.



Information flow about applied plant production products from fruit cultivator to FRAPP database

Today the FRAPP database contains information about 55 different types of fruits and vegetables growing in about 40 different countries. Beside a significant improvement of cost/benefit relation in quality control, the database provides also information about application of plant protection products which are not in accordance with European Safety Standards. Thus preventive and corrective actions can be carried out together with concerned companies.

Collection of information about applied plant protection products

Key information should be collected by farmers and fruit growers all over the world. Fruit processing companies play an important role as data trustee and they are the connection between agriculture structures and the industrial sector. In many cases fruits are purchased from very small suppliers or from collection points representing a

large number of individual farmers. The programme has the task to support the data collection and to provide solutions to overcome obstacles occurring in practice.

The pesticides data collection is a particular traceability task in our industry. Different tools have been developed to simplify data compilation and transfer into the database. Language problems, a complex international nomenclature for plant protection products as well as missing experiences with administration and utilisation of large amounts of technical data have been taken into account. Simple solutions are offered (see FRAPP Collection pesticide input form).

The most important key of success is the awareness of fruit growers and fruit processors that risk assessment and risk management are necessary already at this early stage of the production chain to guarantee high quality, sustainable and healthy products of our industry.

Development of infrastructure for data transmission

During last years it became obvious that the success of FRAPP is closely linked to an intense and continuous communication with the IRMA members. Therefore the pilot project "local heroes" for the improvement of communication has been set up in Spain.


There an independent and recognized pesticide laboratory represents SGF/FRAPP towards Spanish IRMA members. Separately from the routine control schedule of SGF the local hero contacts companies, explains the benefits and provides support for the collection and the data transmission.

Partners could be e.g. research institutes, laboratories or consultants.

Benefits for participating fruit processing companies



The image shows a document titled "FRAPP - Confirmation" from SGF International E.V. It is a confirmation letter for a company named "Fruit Emperor" from Health Town, JUICELAND. The letter states that the company has participated in the FRAPP scope by providing data on Apple and Pear crops for the years 2010 and 2011. It also mentions that the participation improves the company's ability to manage risk and aligns with the quality philosophy of the Voluntary Control System of SGF International E.V. The letter is signed by Dr. Peter Rinke and Sophie Moltner. The footer includes the address of SGF International E.V. in Nieder-Olm, Germany.


Fruit Risk Assessment Programme for Pesticides

FRAPP - Confirmation

We herewith confirm that the company

Fruit Emperor
Health Town,
JUICELAND

participated in the FRAPP scope by providing data on the following crops and years:

Apple	-	2010
Pear	-	2010

The participation improves the company's ability of a suitable risk assessment and risk management and shows their agreement with the quality philosophy of the Voluntary Control System of SGF INTERNATIONAL E.V..

The contribution is part of a proactive approach to fulfill due diligence in terms of pesticide residues, prevention of safety risks and consumer protection.

Nieder-Olm, (date)

Dr. Peter Rinke
Technical Manager SGF/IRMA

Sophie Moltner
Project Assistant SGF/IRMA

SGF INTERNATIONAL E.V. - Sure - Global - Fair
Am Hahnenbusch 14 b, 55288 Nieder-Olm, Germany

Example of FRAPP confirmation letter

Additional support and motivation is offered to FRAPP participants through a backflow of information in terms of the global, regional and individual agrochemical situation for a specific crop of interest. Such a comparison is precious knowledge for agronomists under different aspects, such as food safety, efficiency and cost effectiveness of own plant protection. Respective statistics are extracted regularly from the database and forwarded to fruit processors and their suppliers (see FRAPP feedback).

The FRAPP feedback has become more detailed since last year comprising a differentiation between data of different years because in many cases data from the last season are the most relevant for the IRMA member.

The feedback provides detailed information about the current legal status of applied pesticides. This is practical information giving additional motivation for FRAPP data collection. Worldwide the pesticide programme is joined continuously by new players and the permanently growing database has currently nearly 50,000 data entries.

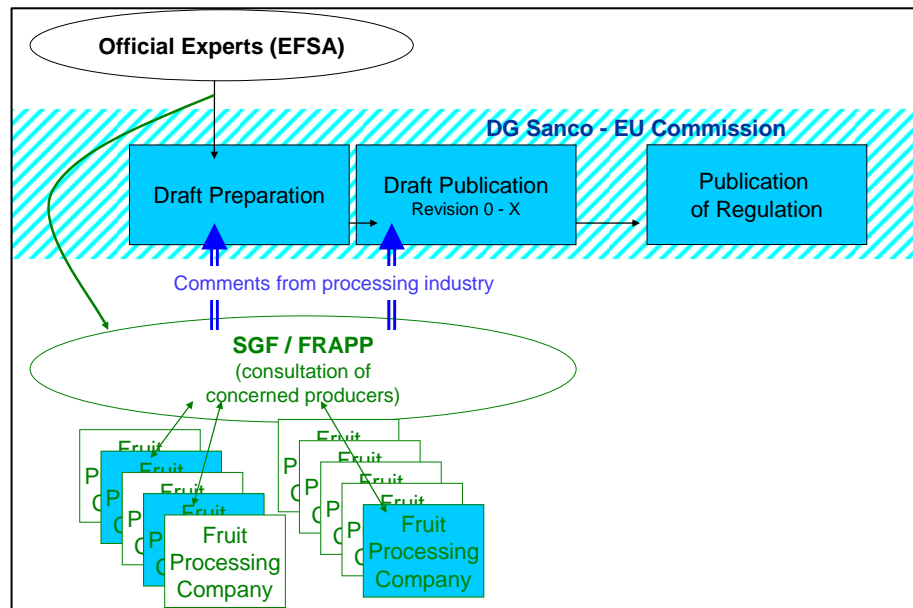
In principle the FRAPP feedback provides the opportunity to IRMA plants to demonstrate to their customers their commitment to safe and sustainable products. Since last year SGF has been distributing a document called "FRAPP confirmation" which proves the participation in the programme. Companies are recommended to ask their suppliers for this document.

Support for fruit growers and processors concerning legal requirements and active influence to the legislation process in EU

A new proactive service has been started in summer 2011. SGF/FRAPP carries out a survey of scientific statements made by EFSA (European Food Safety Agency) and proposals for changes of MRL (Maximum Residue Levels) inside of the European Union. Due to the very complex and large amount of information which should be screened it would be impossible for most companies to do this on their own. Through a counter check of these proposals against information from the FRAPP database FRAPP can identify any company which could run into trouble if a specific MRL would be reduced.

SGF/FRAPP informs companies individually and makes them aware of a problem which can occur in future. This enables the FRAPP participants to react on time.

Furthermore, SGF with the support of AIJN (European Fruit Juice Association) has built up personal contact to the EU commission which allows to put forward comments from the industry to the legislation process in Europe. Therefore IRMA members who get such early information from FRAPP should be encouraged to give their comment to SGF, which will be transmitted in a neutralised form.



Interaction of FRAPP information with the legislation process in the European Union

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Nieder-Olm, Germany

www.SGF.org