



## Studies in Good Experimental Practice (GEP)

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- Efficacy of plant protection products
- Tests on the side effects of plant protection products on beneficial organisms
- Post-harvest trials
- Herbicide trials
- Demonstration trials

## GEP Trials

AGREA operates as test facility with certification issued by the Agriculture Ministry and conducts tests on all the crops, both in open and protected fields, as well as on forest and ornamental plants. The experiments are carried out in the fields of its own experimental farm or selected farms that are in compliance with the GAP.

The experimental efficacy tests are carried out according to the principles of Good Experimental Practice (GEP), provided by the European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) in the "Guidelines for the Efficacy Evaluation of Plant Protection Products" and other International Guidelines such as CEB, IOBC/WPRS .

The AGREA headquarter is in VERONA whereas other subsidiary offices are in Casarsa della Delizia (PN – Friuli Venezia Giulia region) and Scafa (CH – Abruzzo region): AGREA is able to operate throughout the North of Italy, in Central and Southern Italy and Sicily.

### **Efficacy of plant protection products**

The tests are carried out in open field and on protected crops, in the presence of natural infection or with artificial infestation, to test the activity of insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, nematocides, pheromones, biocontrol agents, auxiliaries.

Leaching tests to verify the persistence of the product on the vegetation.

Verification of the selectivity of plant protection products on the crop.

### **Tests on the side effects of plant protection products on beneficial organisms**

The tests are carried out to evaluate the selectivity on the main auxiliaries such as predatory mites, coccinellids, syrphids, anthocorids , etc., in the open field and in the greenhouse.

Tests are carried out according to the standard methods of IOBC/WPRS Guidelines for testing the effects of pesticides on beneficials (IOBC/WPRS, 1992), as well as the SETAC guidance documents (SETAC, 1994, 2000) and "Guidelines to evaluate Side-effects of plant protection products to non-target arthropods (IOBC/WPRS, 2000).

### **Post-harvest trials**

Evaluation of the efficacy of plant protection products in the prevention of typical alterations of the post -harvest time. Possibility of working in cold storage at normal or controlled atmosphere, chilled or not, even for studies of "shelf-life".

### **Herbicides trials**

Evidence of efficacy and selectivity of herbicides in extensive crops, vegetables, orchards and vineyards. Ability to operate in conditions of natural infestation or artificial sowing of weed species.

### **Demonstration trials**

Experimental trials in support of programs for the presentation and launch of new products, with the possibility of the involvement of important grower organizations in the wine sector and horticulture.

