

Autumn Pesticide Stewardship – Why Farmers Need to Take Action!

- **The Drinking Water Directive (DWD) EU drinking water limit** for 'total pesticides' in treated water is 0.5 ppb. For an individual pesticide is 0.1 ppb.
- **Water Framework Directive (WFD)** requires all water bodies to reach "Good Status" - both chemical and biological by 2027.
- **Pesticides** are the biggest issue for the UK meeting the WFD.
- **Metaldehyde** is the number one target for stewardship. Autumn applied herbicides are less of an issue, but are on the water companies' radar.
- **Herbicide active substances** appearing in raw water include metazachlor, quinmerac, carbetamide and propyzamide and are key targets for improved product stewardship.

THE INDIVIDUAL PESTICIDE LIMIT IS EQUIVALENT TO:



1 second in 320 years



1p in £100 million



A grain of wheat in 390 tonnes

DRINKING WATER PROTECTED AREAS (DrWPAs)

DrWPAs ensure protection from water quality deterioration and that water treatment meets the Drinking Water Directive. There are 651 in total in 2013 includes surface water and groundwater.



There are 485 surface water DrWPAs in England, 40% (195 of 485) of which are currently 'at risk' – extra treatment has already been required or there is real risk it will be needed.



23%

The biggest issue is pesticides which cause risk in 23% (no=114) of DrWPAs.



Metazachlor is an issue in surface water, affecting 12 DrWPAs

THE COSTS OF REMOVING PESTICIDES FROM RAW WATER

£3,942,198

An average cost of **£150 per Mega litre (ML)** of water, an average site will treat around **26,000 ML** of water per year which gives a total treatment cost of **£3,942,198** per year per site.

