

WHAT IS DATA PROTECTION?

Data protection provides strong incentives for companies to innovate and invest in generating high-quality safety data.

Data protection applies to tests and study reports generated for the authorisation of Plant Protection Products (PPPs). These studies, which are required to demonstrate a product's safety before it can be placed on the market, are extensive, costly and time-consuming.

No data protection, no investment.

No investment, no authorisations.

No authorisations, no products.



It's a simple chain and breaking the first link breaks the whole chain.

Data protection is therefore crucial for stimulating agricultural innovation and ensuring that European farmers continue to have access to effective tools.

HOW DOES THE CURRENT SYSTEM WORK?

Data protection runs at Member State level. It begins, applies and expires separately in each Member State.

This reflects the fact that PPP authorisations are granted at the Member State level and that timelines vary across Member States.

The protection lasts 10 years for first authorisations of new PPPs and 2.5 years for reviews or renewals.



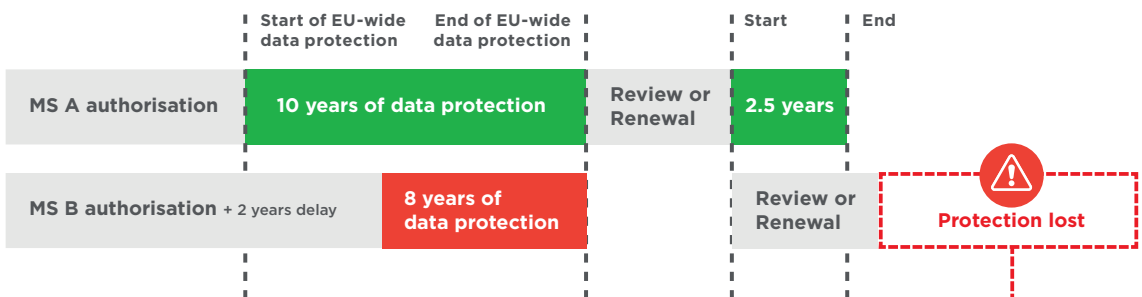
WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The proposal would create a single EU-wide protection clock, starting the moment a study is used in the first authorising country.

Because authorisation timelines differ across the EU, countries authorising products later could face drastically reduced or no data protection.

Less protection = less investment = fewer products.

The result? EU farmers lose access to the innovative crop protection solutions they need, weakening the productivity and competitiveness of European agriculture.



PITFALLS



Less incentive to invest



Fewer solutions



Weaker EU competitiveness



The proposed system could reduce effective data protection to just one Member State across the entire EU.

