



Section Forage Plants & Amenity Grasses – SFG

Annotated Agenda

9 October 2017

16h30 – 18h30

Riga, Latvia

Points of Agenda

I. Opening, welcome and approval of the agenda

Mr Jens Holstborg, SFG Chairman, will open the meeting and welcome the participants. The agenda (ESA_17.0516) will be proposed for approval. Participants will be asked for items to include under Any Other Business.

II. ESA Anti-Trust Guidelines

Participants will be reminded of the ESA Anti-Trust Guidelines (ESA_11.0246.1) and to act accordingly.

III. Minutes of SFG meetings

a) Minutes of SFG Section meeting 10.10.2016

The Chairman, with ESA Secretariat, will inform on the status of the minutes of SFG meeting (ESA_16.0715) held 10 October 2016. One comment was received and taken into account. Minutes can be, then, proposed to be considered as final.

b) Minutes of SFG Section meeting 05.09.2017

The Chairman, with ESA Secretariat, will inform on the status of the minutes of SFG meeting (ESA_17.0623) held 5 September 2017. No comment was received. Minutes can be, then, proposed to be considered as final.

IV. ESA Policy priorities

This item of the agenda covers updates of different horizontal issues of importance for the European seed sector. For each subject, participants are invited to take note of background documents. On most of the subjects, presentations will be given during one of the ESA crop section meetings as indicated.

All presentations will be published on ESA website after its annual meeting.

SFG members interested in these subjects are invited to attend the respective Section meetings.

a) Focus on Plant Health

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on Plant health (ESA_17.0628).

Participants will have the opportunity to have an insight on that topic thanks to presentations given during the meeting of the section for Fodder crops and Amenity grasses (SFG):

- **“Plant health, be fully alert”** by Christophe ROUILLARD, ESA Technical Manager Plant Health and Seed Trade
- **“EU regulation and ISPM, Challenges for the future”** by Emmanuel LESPRIT, Chair ESA Working Group Plant Health

b) Plant Breeding innovation

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on Plant Breeding Innovation (ESA_17.0632).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the General Assembly which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday October 10 from 14h00 – 16h00.

c) Intellectual Property rights

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on Intellectual Property (ESA_17.0624) and on Brexit (ESA_17.0625).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the section for Cereals and Pulses (SCP) which is scheduled to take place on Monday October 9 from 08h30 – 10h30.

d) Research & Innovation

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on Research & Innovation (ESA_17.0626).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the section for Maize (SMA) which is scheduled to take place on Monday October 9 from 11h00 – 13h00.

e) Seed Treatment

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on Seed Treatment (ESA_17.0627).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the section for Oil and Fibre Crops (SOF) which is scheduled to take place on Monday October 9 from 14h00 – 16h00.

f) Biodiversity

Participants are invited to take note of the background documents on:

- the Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization (ESA_17.0630);
- the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ESA_17.0631);
- the regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products (ESA_17.0633).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the section for Vegetable crops (SVO) which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday October 10 from 08h00 – 9h30.

g) ePhyto

Participants are invited to take note of the background document on ePhyto (ESA_17.0629).

Participants interested in that subject are invited to attend presentations given during the section for Potatoes (SPO) which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday October 10 from 10h00 – 11h30.

V. Section specific issues

This item of the agenda covers updates of specific issues of importance for the section for Fodder crops and amenity grasses

a) Report on topics discussed this year in SFG

Participants will be invited to take note of the presentation on topics discussed this year in the section for fodder crops and amenity grasses.

- b) Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/478 releasing certain Member States from the obligation to apply to certain species Council Directives on the marketing of seeds

Participants will be invited to take note of the presentation by ESA Secretariat on that decision to release certain Member States on their request to apply to certain species Council Directives on the marketing of seeds and in particular for fodder species recently added to those marketing directives (Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2016/2109).

- c) Monitoring of illegal seed activities and continued awareness of the SFG Code of conduct

Participants will be invited to take note of the presentation by Nils ELMGAARD, Chair ESA Working Group “Monitoring of illegal seed activities”.

- d) OECD activities related to label security

Participants will be invited to take note of the presentation by Csaba GASPAR, Programme Manager, OECD Seed Schemes.

- e) SFG Factsheet

Participants will be reminded of the existing SFG Factsheet (ESA_16.0116).

The ESA Crop Factsheets have been developed with help of many Members, who contributed by providing facts, figures and info on several aspects of each crop. The Factsheets are available on the on the ESA website, on the crop sections.

The factsheets (4-page format) contain information on key production figures, research and development of the most important relevant crops, environmental aspects as well as information on the ESA Members (both Direct and Association Members) active in those crops.

The ESA Secretariat collected feedback and comments on the first versions that were published and will update those factsheets in the coming months.

- f) Priority topics to be addressed in the coming year

Participants will be reminded of the priority topics agreed for 2017.

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1	Monitoring of illegal seed activities and Continued awareness of the SFG Code of Conduct
2	Availability of Plant Protection Products in seed production
3	CAP Implementing provisions for permanent pastures and Ecological Focus Areas
4	Possibilities to improve the renewal rate in grasses

In the spring meeting, the ESA Section for Fodder crops and Amenity grasses (SFG) has addressed those priorities.

Participants will be invited to renew and/or amend the priorities for the coming year.

g) Proposal of a new Chairman

Participants will be invited to take note of the decision of the Chairman to step down from its position. Therefore, ESA Board proposed Soren HALBYE as a candidate for this position. Soren HALBYE is Chief Commercial Officer, Strategic Business Unit Greater Europe at DLF. He participated in ISF Committee for forage and turf and is the Chairman of the Danish Seed Association. Members of the section for fodder crops and amenity grasses will be invited to elect him as a new Chairman. The decision will be formally endorsed by ESA General Assembly (closed session) which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday October 10 from 12h00 – 13h00.

VI. International organisations

This item of the agenda covers updates of the outcomes of the latest meetings of international organisations of importance in the seed sector.

a) International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

Participants will be invited to take note of the report by ESA Secretariat on the outcomes of interest for SFG section of the latest meetings of UPOV.

A presentation will be given by the Office of UPOV on the electronic Application Form during the meeting of the section for Oil and Fibre Crops (SOF) which is scheduled to take place on Monday October 9 from 14h00 – 16h00.

b) Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)

Participants will be invited to take note of the report by ESA Secretariat on the outcomes of interest for SFG section of the latest meetings of CPVO.

c) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) – Seed Schemes

Participants will be invited to take note of the report by ESA Secretariat on the outcomes of interest for SFG section of the latest meetings of OECD.

Participants will be invited to take note of the presentation by Csaba GASPAR, Programme Manager, OECD Seed Schemes given under point V.c of the present agenda.

VII. Any other Business

Participants will be invited to share any information of interest.

VIII. Confirmation of next SFG meetings and Closure

Participants will be invited to note that, the next SFG Board meeting is scheduled to take place in March 2018. Date and location still need to be confirmed.

The next ESA annual congress will be held on October 8th – 9th, 2018 in Madrid, Spain.