



**Pesticide
Action
Network**
Europe

Endocrine disrupting pesticides

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Conference DG SANTE – 1st June 2015

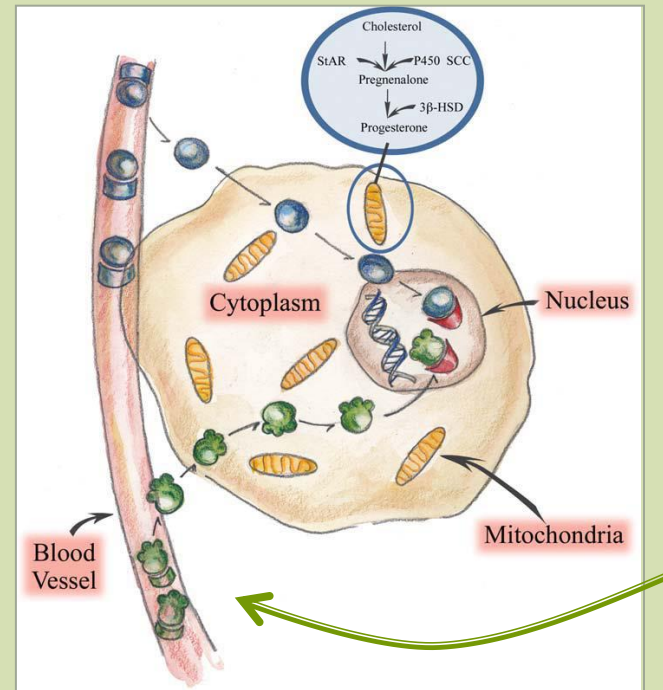
Pesticides



Deliberately made to be toxic to living organisms

- Cellular sites in target species similar to humans and other animals

Several pesticides are endocrine disruptors

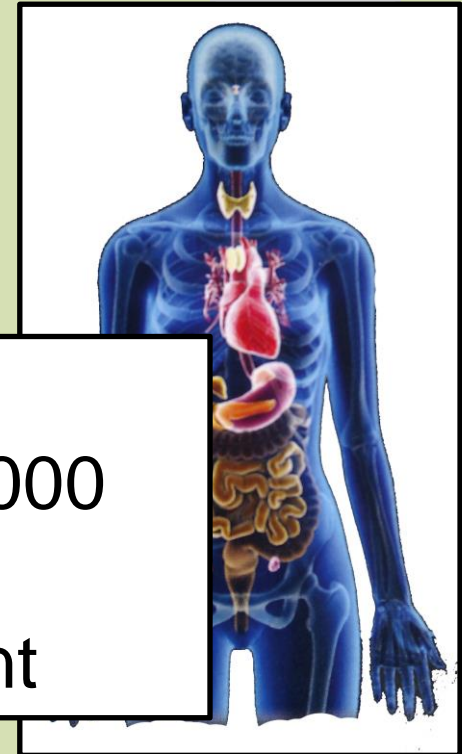


+ Low solubility → Contamination of ecosystems

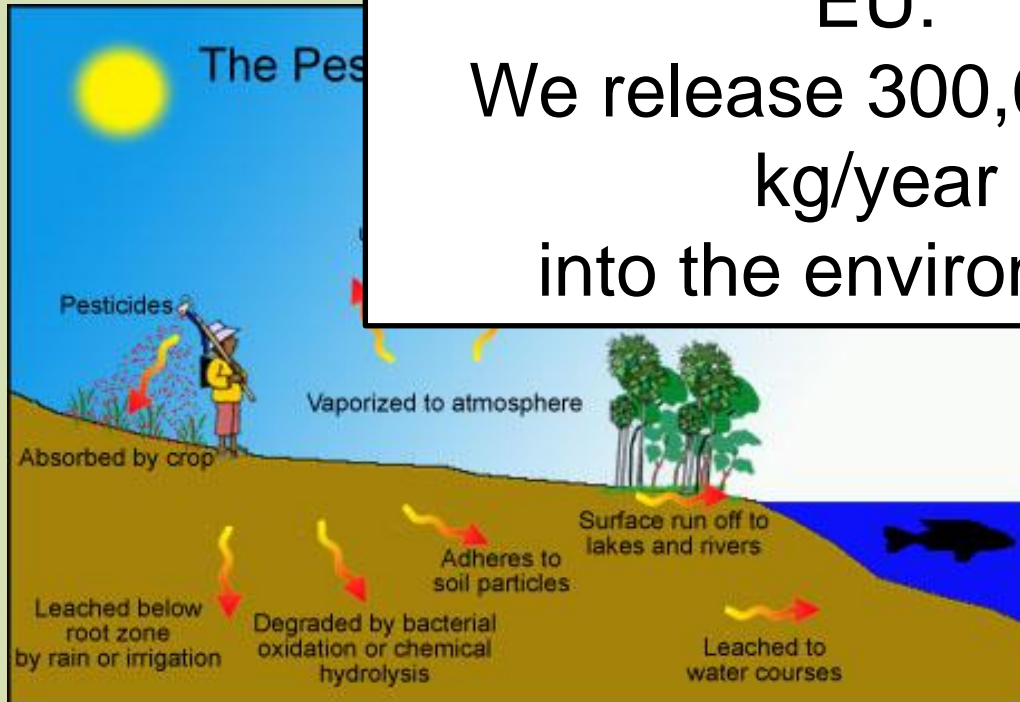
Pesticides



Detected in: biota, soil, sediments, water systems, human tissues and blood, including newborns.



EU:
We release 300,000,000 kg/year into the environment



ED-pesticides and wildlife



DDT;
alligators &
birds



Atrazine; fish,
amphibian &
reptile
feminization

History of
endocrine disruption
due to pesticides

Dieldrin,
chlordanes;
Hermaphrodite
polarbears



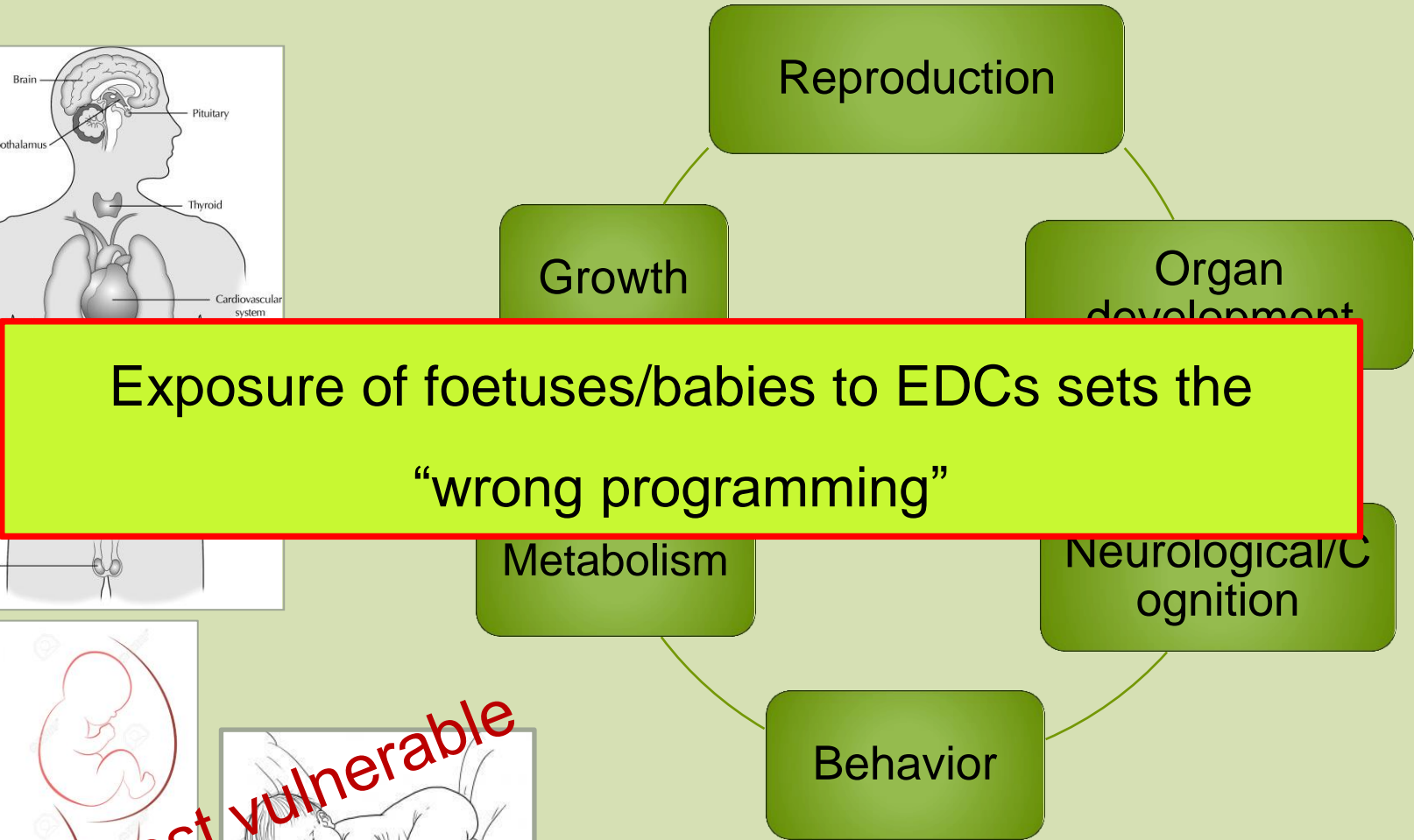
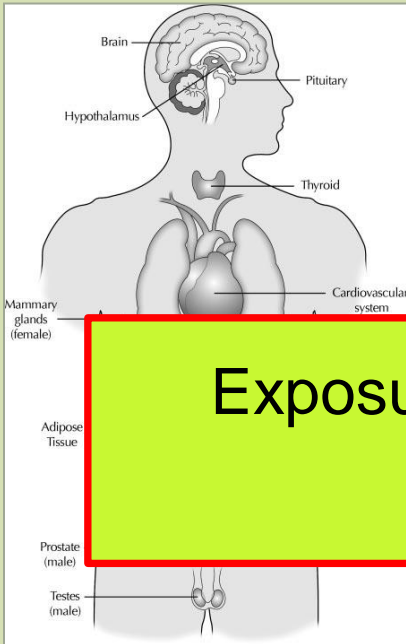
TBT;
imposex in
snails



Agricultural
areas:
amphibian
intersex

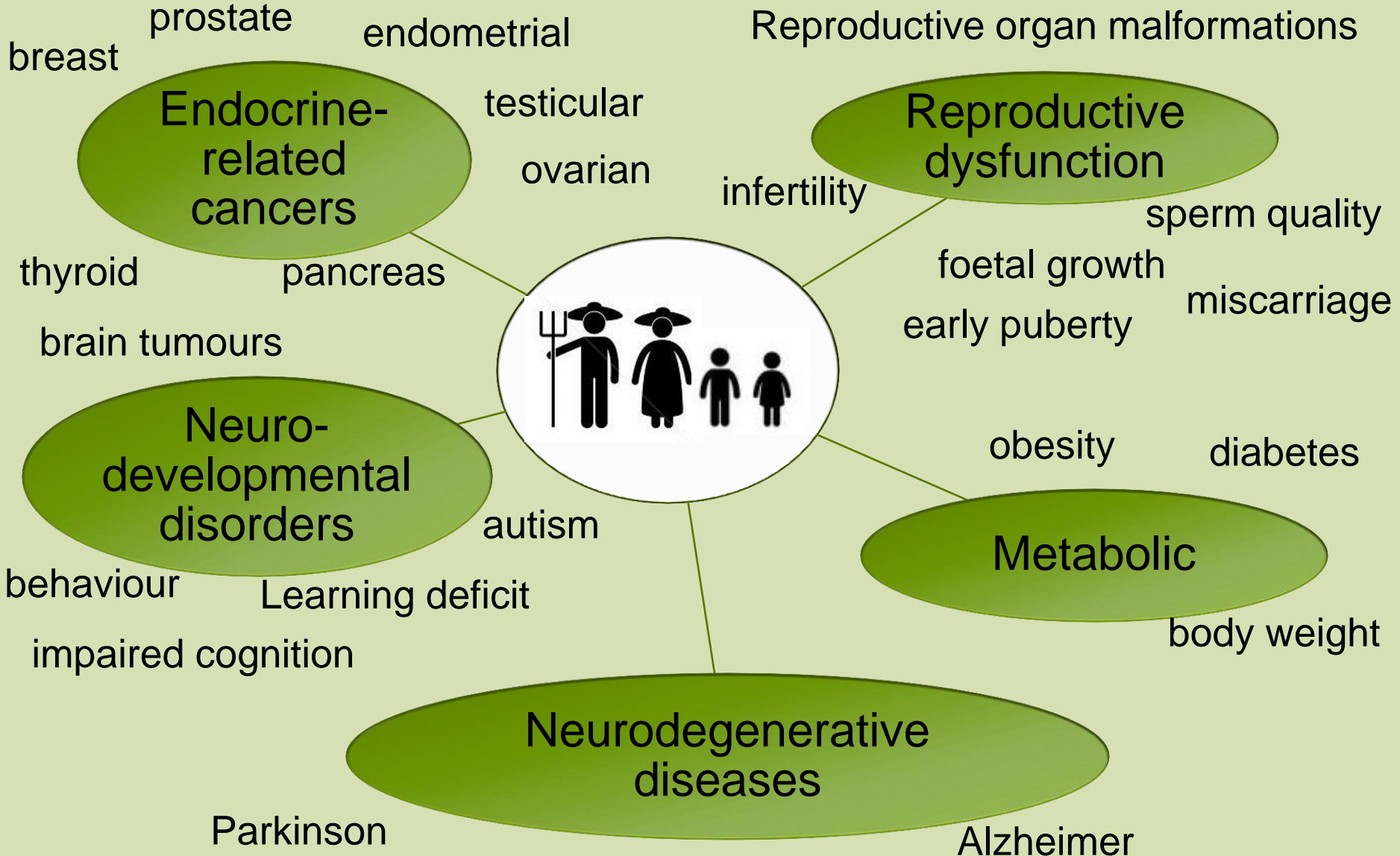


The endocrine system



The most vulnerable

ED-pesticides and humans



ED-pesticides



Current Risk Assessment misses to protect human health and the environment from all EDCs

WHO report, 2013:

- EDCs are a global problem
- Improved methods of assessment of chemicals are needed

PPPR and BPR:

- precautionary principle → cut-off criteria

“substances having endocrine disrupting properties which may cause adverse effects will not be approved for the respective use”

COM never presented the draft criteria based on science



The roadmap to where?

- Only one of criteria options of the roadmap will capture all EDCs
 - Option 3 (Categories)
- Regulatory-decision making options for changing regulation (Options B & C) are dangerous
 - Option A: A derogation allowing 5-years use in case of a serious danger to plant health is included.

PAN Europe's Assessment



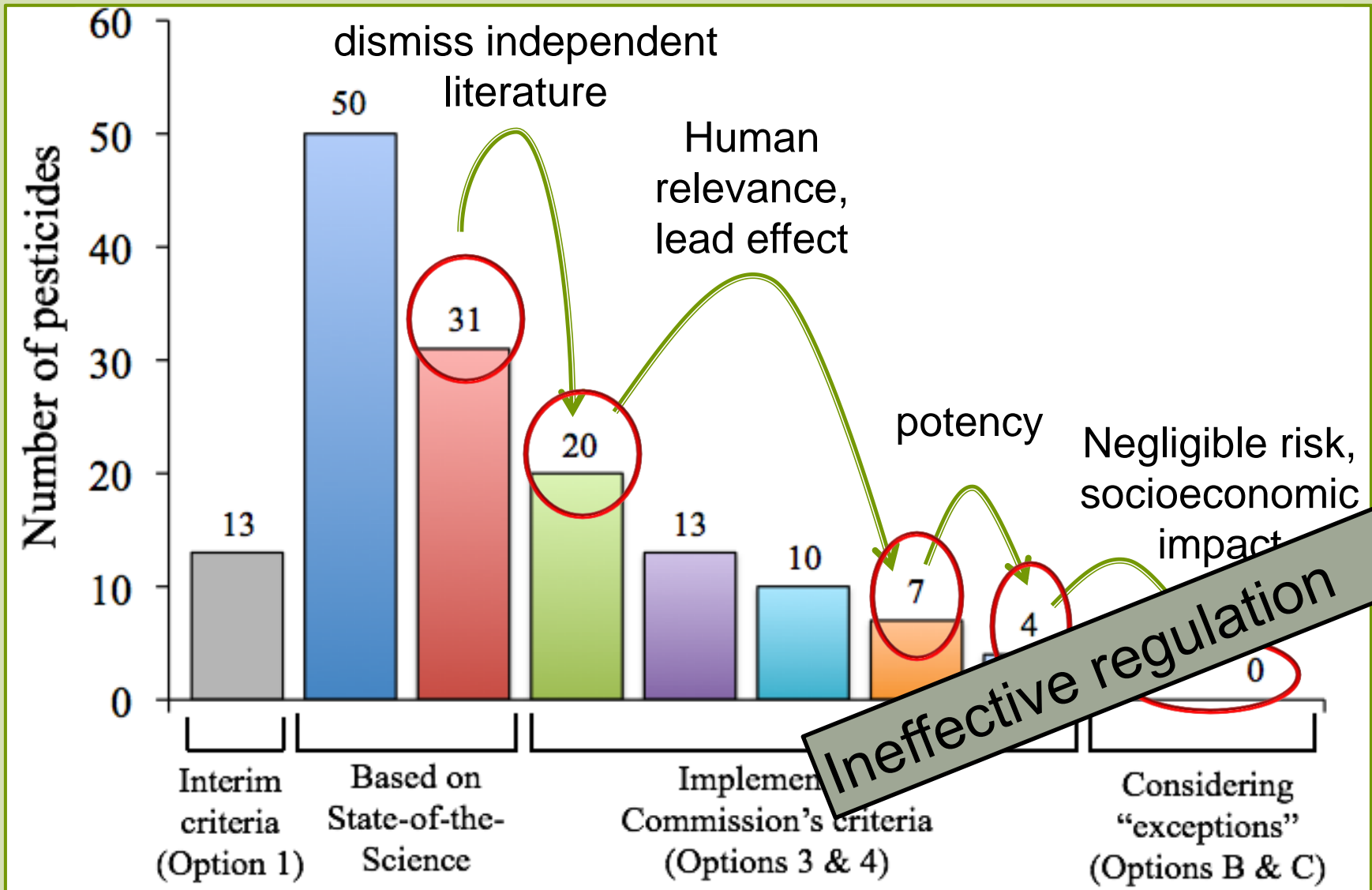
Pesticides with ED-properties → **50**

That **may** cause adverse effects → **31**

**6% of authorized
pesticides**

More information: <http://www.disruptingfood.info/en/what-we-do-blog>

Dangers in the interpretation of the criteria





Alternatives

- Synthetic non-EDC alternatives

BUT best option:

- Integrated Pest Management
 - January 2014: Pesticides as a last resource

Non-chemical alternatives

Crop rotation

Resistant varieties

Planting distance

Biofungicides:

e.g. *Ampelomyces quisqualis*

OR Organic Agriculture

Organic Vs Conventional: 8-9 % yield

Final remarks



- The COM has to protect human health and the environment from exposure to ED-pesticides
- The COM should not use the IA to decide upon science-based EDC criteria
- Europe should move towards a low-pesticide and sustainable agriculture

Thank you!