

## Recording meetings with Agronomist/Technical Advisor

### Guidance notes

#### Aim:

To improve communication between the agronomist and the NRoSO member, and to encourage the transfer of up-to-date information to the pesticide operator.

#### Background:

When NRoSO members meet with agronomists, it provides an excellent opportunity for the transfer of recent technical developments, legislative requirements and agronomic characteristics. Often agronomists visit farms without meeting farm staff but when they do meet up the outcomes provide a valuable form of '*continuing professional development*' (CPD). Normally the NRoSO member would accompany the agronomist around the farm or holding.

**A Good Advisor** will be an invaluable source of technical information such as;

- Which products are best suited to deal with a particular set of circumstances
- New scientific developments including new and better ways of using older products
- When dose rates can be adjusted to achieve effective control at optimum cost
- Guidance on health, safety and legislative aspects of pesticide use
- Guidance on such matters as LERAPs and other environmental requirements
- The requirements to satisfy the Assurance Schemes.

#### Features:

- The meeting should be agreed with the agronomist beforehand
- Each arranged meeting is worth **2** CPD points
- Only **2** meetings per year i.e. a maximum of **4** CPD points, can be claimed each year of membership
- Only a maximum of 6 meetings will be accredited over the 3 year duration of the membership i.e. **12** CPD points
- The timing of the meetings would be best if they were varied throughout the spraying year e.g. one autumn and one spring.

### Issues to be discussed & recorded

#### Environment:

- LERAPS
- Environmental impact
- Special Precautions
- PPE requirements

#### Application Practice:

Target organisms	Cost implications
Control options	Variety suitability
Product choice	Site suitability
Produce dose rate	Crop growth characteristics
Tank mix issues	Choice of nozzle
Tank cleaning	Application rates, techniques, water volumes
Timing	Growth stage suitability





