

THE INSPECTION OF SPRAYERS IN TRENTINO

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Since 1997, the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Producers in Trentino (APOT) in accordance with the local Government with the support of the Extension Service of the Centre for Technology Transfer of the Fondazione E. Mach, to achieve a better efficacy of treatments and rationalize use of chemicals, have putted in place the mandatory inspection activity for all the associate growers. Until now nearly 10,000 checks have been carried out using mobile test stations. In addition in Trentino a calibration of the sprayer is mandatory on the basis of the Resolution of the Government of the Province of Trento 2012/2009 for the main crops on the farm. The Fondazione E. Mach is the responsible body for the accreditation of inspection centers and monitoring of their activity. Until today the wine industry, has worked on a more bland inspection activity. In the wine sector a part of sprayers, in recent years, have been checked with the mobile centers operating in the fruit industry and a regularly accredited private workshop is currently operating. To meet all the requirements of the Directive 2009/128/CE it will be necessary also to quantify the amount of sprayers in use in fields other than the fruit/vine growing (e.g. herbicide application, treatment to urban green spaces, etc.) in order to organize inspections with an adequate number of centers and qualified personnel. Certainly the experience gained to date will help this task.