

Biodegradation and Environmental Fate of Chemicals - Regulatory Acceptance of Non-Standard Tests

CHAIRS: Chris Mead, Graham Whale



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The fate of chemicals in the environment whether they be agrochemicals, industrial chemicals or pharmaceuticals has traditionally been assessed for regulatory purposes using the results obtained from standard biodegradation and environmental fate studies based on, for example, the OECD 301, 307 and 308 Test Guidelines. With these Test Guidelines having been developed a number of years ago using easy to test chemicals, numerous challenges arise when attempting to test difficult chemicals using these methods and the results obtained from these tests can have a significant impact on the classification and labelling chemicals. Various guidance documents produced by ECHA, OECD and ISO give advice on how standard test methods can be modified to accommodate and improve the testing of difficult chemicals, and how to interpret the results of various studies conducted on chemicals. This session aims to review regulatory acceptance, or otherwise, of the changes that can be made to the current methodology and to investigate what regulation changes may be required in the future to improve decisions made on the fate of chemicals based on laboratory data. Presentations are invited on, but not limited to: improvements on current methodology, regulatory interpretation of the various guidance documents, interpretation of results from standard and modified study designs, the use and interpretation of laboratory data in risk assessments and regulatory acceptance of this data.

Keywords: regulation, biodegradation, environmental fate, persistence, classification, labelling

SESSION TYPE: Platform and Poster