

## **Report : Insecticide-association conflict**

**State:** An association for the protection of biodiversity refuses to treat Bupreste with a systemic and residual insecticide because its action are nonspecific and polluting. It kills without distinction bees and other useful insects as well as fish.

You are responsible for solving the problem with the association.

### **What is an Insecticide and why we use it ?**

Insecticide are a pesticide which are a mixture of substances used in agriculture and public places in order to kill insects, So their the main goal of using insecticide is to protect plants and humans from pests and diseases that can be transported by some insects. Insecticide can also prevent the culture from insects which eat and attack the plants, such as aphids, or locusts.

EU debat on this subject:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/apr/27/eu-agrees-total-ban-on-bee-harming-pesticides>

### **Why do we need to treat Bupreste ?**

The main issue with these insects is that the larvae bore through roots, logs, stems, and leave of various types of plants. Most of the time, they are not really problematic only attacking dying or dead branches on healthy trees or green wood but some of them are capable to kill entire trees that could lead to major economic damages.

To go further:

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/c3f0/2033f691de7cb9d599dea5e884c30511f62e.pdf>

### **Alex point of view and solution:**

Buprestidae can only be treated by systemic and residual insecticide which are, intrinsically, non specific, polluting or even toxic, therefore, the use of insecticides is not a valid option. The only ecological treatment is to surveil all the plantations and to make an early-diagnostic of the presence of bupreste. As soon as we have found it, we need to remove any infected branch to preserve the rest of the tree which is healthy or if the tree's trunk is infected too, we need to cut it down in order to preserve the reaminings trees.

### **Wael point of View and solution:**

Bupreste usually attack thuja trees. one of the solution that can be applicated is to reduce or totally delete Thujas. In fact these trees deplete the ground, and serve as a refuge or food for a very few birds, animals and insects, even the generalisation of thuyas in gardens is one of the main reasons of the failure of species diversity in pre urban areas.

So, the best is to take responsibility and replace thujas with broom, blackthorn and more trees which can not be damaged by Bupreste.

### **JB point of View and solution:**

In order to protect our forest we need to fight against Buprestidae, for the moment with have only the systemic and residual insecticide solution. We have to keep using this insecticide as this is the only solution which is cost-effective. We don't have neither the time, or the money to treat efficiently the Buprestidae. However, we are open to every solution that don't kill others insect or which is not polluting, and we want to use a eco-friendly solution applicable in our forest with the resources we have.

### **Analysis of the conflict: Link with notions seen in course**

It's an intergroup conflict both relational and cognitive, indeed, it's based on values such as the ecology, the responsibility, ... Therefore, we really need to focus on aggressivity because we are challenging the association values and that could lead to a bad situation, first of all, we need to defuse the situation.

### **Method of resolution: Give a possible method to solve this conflict**

We propose this step-by-step method to try to resolve this conflict :

1. Defuse the situation.
2. Stay factual.
3. Propose the new solution (Solution Alex,Wael or JB)
4. Test the solution for a defined period in a defined area
5. Explore the results
6. Validate or not

### **Ethical positioning: Take the problem from an ethical point of view**

This study case raise ethical question on responsibility and justice:

- the persons that will take the decisions of treat with insecticides would be responsible of the deaths of many useful insects and fish that could have an even larger economic or environmental impact.
- Is it just and fair to uses more and more insecticides that we know are highly polluting and tends to increase the climate disturbance, even more, when the consequences are currently striking the population of the south country.

<http://www.climatechallenge.be/fr/des-infos-en-mots-et-en-images/quelles-en-sont-les-consequences/phenomenes-climatiques-extremes/pays-du-sud.aspx>