

Discussion: Aquatic macrophyte higher tier studies



New requirements for micro- and mesocosm studies from EFSA Aquatic Guidance document.

1. Do macrophyte studies meet the Minimum Detectable Differences (MDDs) criteria ?

- Minimum Detectable Differences (MDDs): OK for Potted Plants studies;
- Mesocosm studies with free-living macrophyte populations MDDs probably do not meet the criteria (variability too high);

2. Do macrophyte studies meet the criteria of a minimum of 8 populations assessed in a mesocosm study ?

- Potted plant studies OK;
- Mesocosm studies with free-living macrophyte populations: NO, if macrophytes are more sensitive than algae; size of mesocosms is limiting;

3. How to address recovery in aquatic macrophyte mesocosm studies ?