

Aquatic Macrophyte Ecotoxicology Group (AMEG)

Background and aims

AMEG was established in June 2009 to provide guidance on all aspects of aquatic macrophyte testing in the laboratory and field as well as the use of macrophyte data in the risk assessment of chemicals. The group intends to accomplish these goals by being a forum for communication, co-operation, scientific discussion and collaboration between scientists in academia, business and government.

AMEG's current research areas are ecotoxicology and chemical risk assessment and, in the future, macrophytes as water quality indicators, their role in phytoremediation and the management of invasive macrophyte species.



Activities of AMEG

At the moment, two working groups are active under the umbrella of AMEG. Additional working groups will be established in future when outputs for specific questions are required.

Myriophyllum test guideline group

The *Myriophyllum* test guideline group was established to develop a test guidance document for a *Myriophyllum* sp. water - sediment test. A ring-test has been conducted and the final report will be available in 2012. The protocol has been accepted as an OECD Test Guideline Project.

SSD group

The SSD working group discusses the use of SSDs (Species Sensitivity Distributions) for aquatic macrophytes. The working group has compiled a database of toxicity data, which has been used to investigate the sensitivity of standard test species relative to other macrophyte species and algae. This project was funded by a consortium of several partners and a report was finalized in 2011.

In addition AMEG organizes **sessions and group meetings** during the SETAC conferences in North America and Europe.

Organization of AMEG

AMEG is a global Advisory Group open to all interested scientists or students. AMEG is led by a Steering Committee of currently 11 scientists from North America and Europe representing Academia, Business and Government and chaired by Gertie Arts (NL) and Mark Hanson (CA).

Publications / Output

- Arts G, Davies J, Dobbs M, Ebke P, Hanson M, Hommen U, Knauer K, Loutseti S, Maltby L, Mohr S, Poovey A, Poulsen V. (2010): AMEG: The New SETAC Advisory Group on Aquatic Macrophyte Ecotoxicology. Environ Sci Poll Res. 17 (4), 820-823
- Giddings J. (2011): The Relative Sensitivity of Macrophyte and Algal Species to Herbicides and Fungicides: An Analysis Using Species Sensitivity Distributions. CSI Report No. 11702. Available at: www.complianceservices.com/Page.aspx?nid=265
- Platform, poster and poster corner sessions here in Berlin: Session RA19, Plants and chemicals in the environment: risk assessment, pest management and phyto-remediation, Tuesday 22nd of May 2012
- AMEG meeting on Wednesday 23rd of May 2012, 16.00 – 18.00 h in Estrel Hall C2