The ASTA project is supporting a workshop that is arranged in collaboration with UNECE Convention Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution

Establishing Ozone Critical Levels II



Göteborg, Sweden 19-22 November, 2002 IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute Göteborg University

www.ozoneworkshop.ivl.se

Organising Committee:

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Background

The UNECE Convention on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollution is one of the central means for protecting the European environment. Since its entry into force the Convention has been extended by eight protocols (www.unece.org). The latest is the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone. Its review/ revision is envisaged for 2004/2005.

Critical levels for ground-level ozone have been developed through a series of UNECE work-shops: Bad Harzburg 1988, Egham 1992, Bern 1993, Kuopio 1996 and Gerzensee 1999. Current critical levels are defined using a Level I approach, which means that they can only be used to evaluate the potential risk to the vegetation. However, in order to quantify impacts of ozone and their economic consequences for vegetation, there is a need for a Level II approach. A first step in this direction was taken at the UNECE workshop in Gerzensee 1999. A Level II approach will have to take into account factors that modify the ozone uptake by the foliage, differences in ozone tolerance between species and varieties, spatial and temporal differences in phenology, how ozone affects plant communities, etc.

Aims of the workshop

The workshop represents the main opportunity to introduce new Ozone Critical Levels II into the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol 2004/2005. The overall aim of the workshop is to recommend new texts for the Ozone Critical Level II approach for the Mapping Manual.

The primary aims of the workshop are:

- To review recent progress in the fields of ozone exposure–response relationships for vegetation and ozone exposure modelling and mapping.
- To suggest ozone exposure—response re-lationships for agricultural crops, natural vegetation and forest trees, based on the most recent available knowledge.
- To suggest specific changes in the text of the Mapping Manual concerning critical levels for ozone.

Finansing

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