

Regulation of macro-organisms in biological control and pollination in Finland

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Biological control in Finland

- Mainly used in greenhouses
 - Common in vegetable production
 - Increasing in ornamental flower production
- Open field
 - Used in polytunnel cultivation



Photos: A-M Alanko

Legislation of BCAs in Finland

- Macro-organisms:
 - Plant health legislation
 - Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira
- Micro-organisms:
 - Plant protection product legislation
 - Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (Tukes)



Photo: A-M Alanko

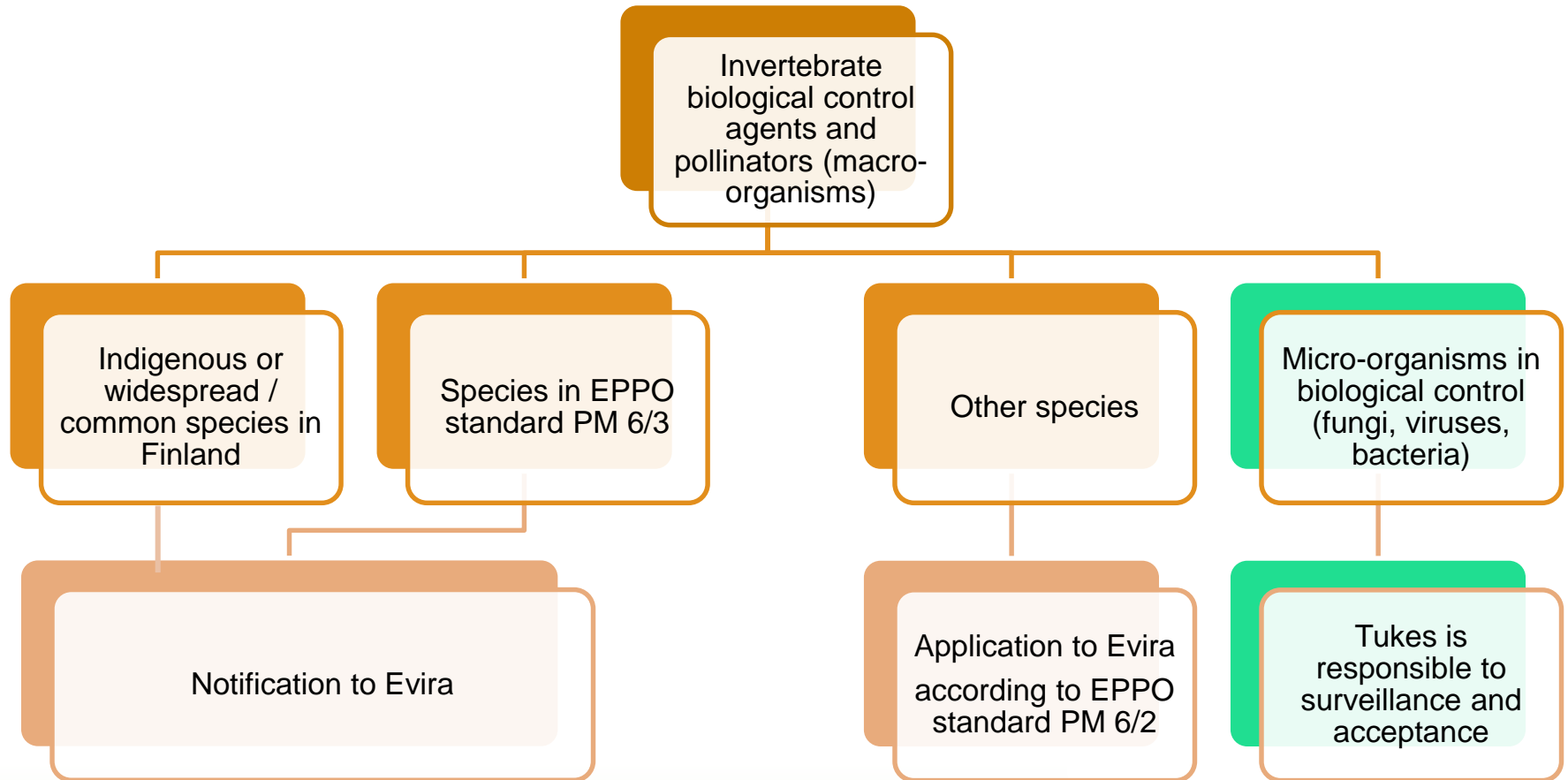
Plant health legislation change in Finland

- Macro-organisms (and pollinators) were added in plant health legislation 1.1.2013
 - Surveillance of use, import and marketing by Evira
 - All products containing BCAs used in Finland, have to be accepted by Evira
- The use can be restricted or banned by Evira, if there is a risk to **plant health**
- Ministry of the Environment can set restrictions, if it is necessary, by nature conservation act. (in 2016 national IAS legislation)
- Evira maintains a list of accepted BCA products
- No specific requirements to import of BCAs, only pollinators

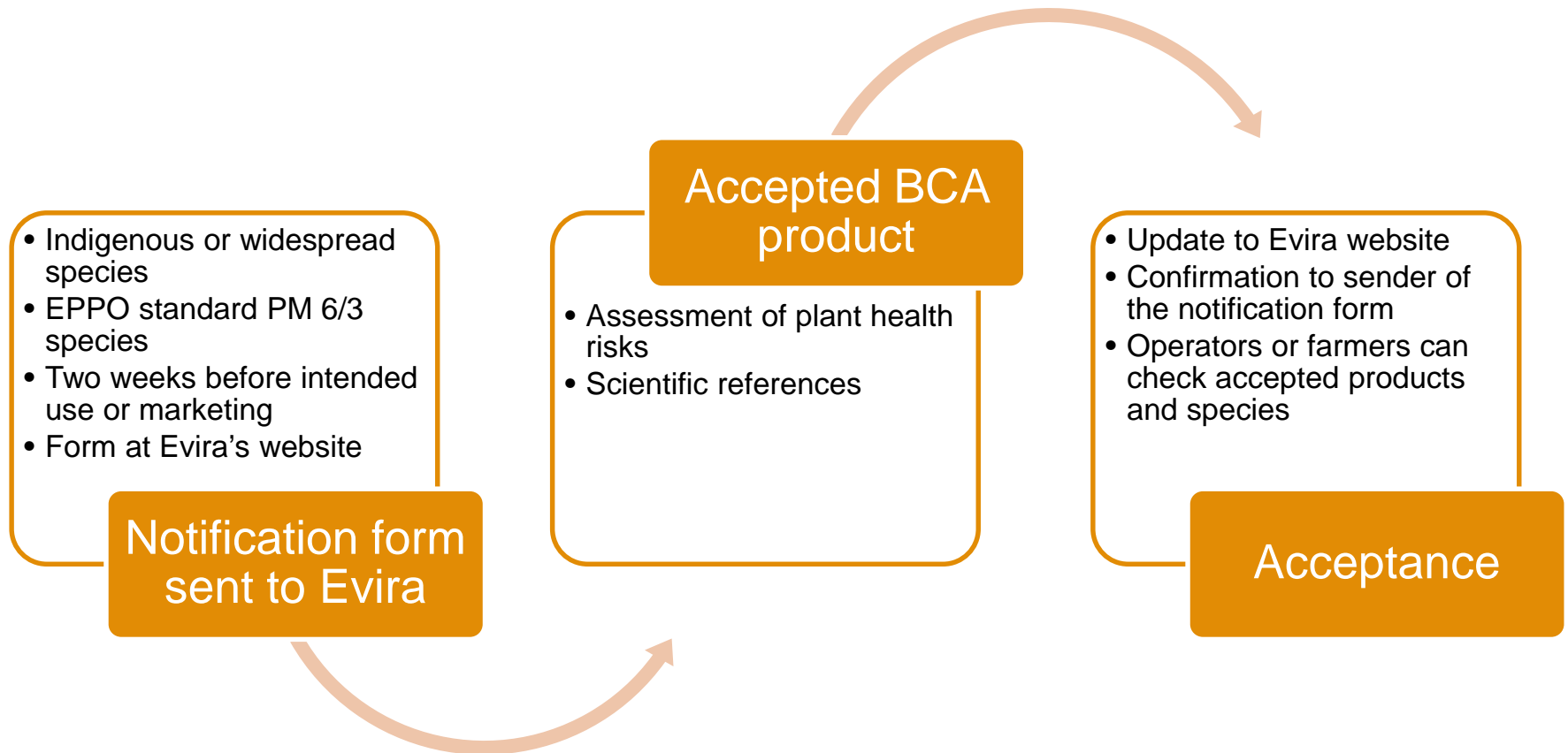


Photo: A-M Alanko

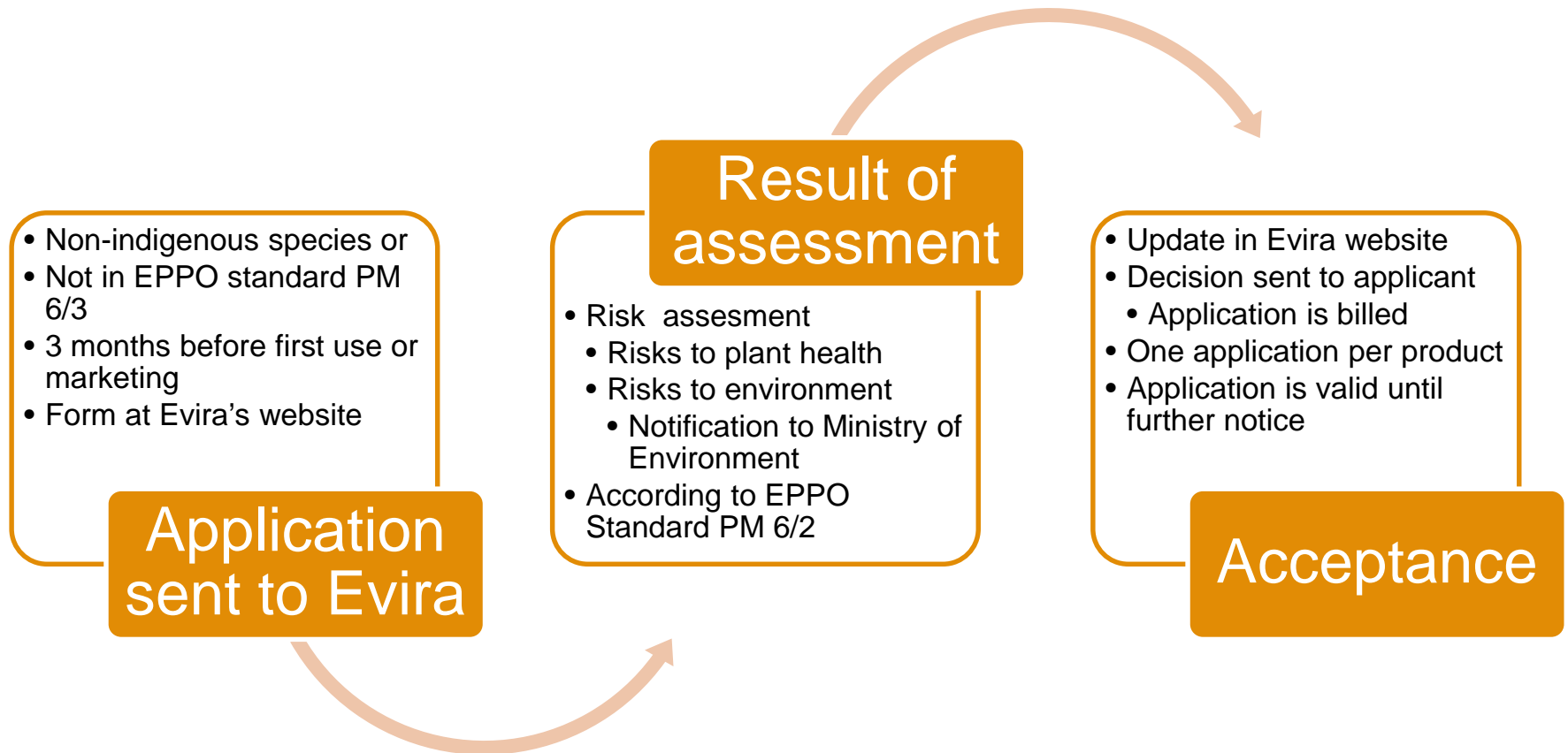
Notification / application process of BCA products



Notification process



Application process



Product list at Evira's website

- All accepted products
 - Notified: 158 products
 - Applied and accepted: 8 products
 - *Amblyseius montdorensis* (2 products)
 - Pollinators: *Bombus terrestris* (6 products)
- Maintained when new products are accepted
- Operators and farmers can check
 - Accepted products
 - Information on targets of use
 - Possible restriction

<http://www.evira.fi/portal/en/plants/cultivation+and+production/biological+control+and+pollination/accepted+macro-organisms/biological+control/>

Surveillance and inspections

- **BCA products used in Finland before legislation change**
 - Evaluated for plant health risks by 31.12.2013
 - Operators sent notifications or applications of their products
- **Inspections at greenhouses or fields**
 - Performed with normal plant health inspections
 - Which products are used by farmers
 - Are those products accepted by Evira
 - Possible damage to crop plants
- **Marketing surveillance**
 - 9 operators in Finland
 - Random samples of 5 % of products in Evira's list yearly
 - 2 samples / product
 - Possible contaminations

Nesidiocoris tenuis

- BCA in Southern Europe
- Found from tomato greenhouses in 2008
- Significant economic loss for farmers
 - Population increased in winter
 - Severe damage to tomato plants
- Maybe contaminated *Macrolophus*-products
- Last case in 2014
- **Main driver for the legislation change**



Thank you for your attention!
Questions?

