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## Foreword

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The 2nd European Pesticide Residue Workshop, EPRW98, was held in Almeria (Spain) on 24–27 May 1998. It was organized by the University of Almeria and the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with the close collaboration of the following organizations: INRA (France), BGVV (Germany), ISS (Italy), IGB (Netherlands), NFA (Sweden) and CSL (UK). Like in the first edition of the EPRW series, which was held in Alkmaar (Netherlands) in 1996, EPRW '98 was bringing together about 400 analytical chemists, quality managers, toxicologists, agronomists, legislators, administrators, and other scientists, from 35 countries all over the world, to discuss on all the aspects and disciplines that now comprise the evaluation and control of pesticide residues in food.

The scientific programme of the workshop started with three plenary lectures by Stephen J. Crossley, Andries Bruins, and Alan R.C. Hill who discoursed respectively upon “European Harmonisation of Consumer Exposure and Risk Assessment Methodology”, “LC–MS: Ionization Techniques and Interfaces”, and “Quality Control Procedures for Pesticide Residues Analysis in the European Union”. The programme also included five symposia on “LC–MS and LC–MS–MS–Trends for Pesticide Residue Analysis”, “Collaborative Projects and Proficiency Testing within the EU”, “Monitoring Programmes”, “Sampling, Analytical Methodologies and QC/QA”, and “Consumer Exposure/Risk Assessment and Pesticide Residue Legislation”, in

which 32 high quality oral presentations were presented by invited speakers from different European and nonEuropean countries. Likewise, 140 contributions were presented during the three poster sessions included in the programme, which complemented the series of lectures and oral presentations so that all factors affecting pesticide residues in food and beverages were covered. 42 of these poster presentations were devoted to the topics group “Advanced Sample Preparation and Analytical Techniques”, 62 to “Multiresidue/Selective Methods, QC/QA and Monitoring”, and 38 to “Exposure, Risk Assessment and other topics”. This issue includes a selection of the papers presented and submitted for publication during the EPRW '98.

Without doubt, after the great success of its two first editions, the European Pesticide Residue Workshop has become the premier European forum for presenting the latest concepts and developments in pesticide analysis, monitoring, registration, regulation, risk assessment, and all other aspects related to the main topic of the workshop “Pesticides in Food and Drink”. The next workshop of this series, EPRW 2000, will be held in York (UK) on 2–5 July 2000. Stewart Reynolds from the Central Science Laboratory (UK MAFF) will be the chairman of this meeting.

Almeria, Spain

Antonio Valverde  
Chairman of EPRW '98