

Which recycled nutrients for Organic Farming ? and why ?

Monday 18th September 2023, 14h00 – 17h00

Participants = online. Speakers and moderators in Brussels (if convenient) or online

Participants: representatives of Organic Farming organisations from across Europe

v23/7/23 – Registration on [Eventbrite](#)

Europe has strong Green Deal ambitions to develop Organic Farming. At the same time, Russia's war of aggression has caused a mineral fertiliser supply and price crisis. This does not directly impact Organic Production, but has implications for food security and inflation and accentuates the need for Organic Farming to optimise use of recycled nutrients, in coherence with Organic Farming's environmental objectives. Recycled struvite and precipitated phosphates have been added into the list of authorised inputs as fertilisers in EU Organic Farming, with appropriate limitations (January 2023*). Certain other recycled nutrients are already authorised, again with conditions.

This meeting will discuss which further recycled nutrient products might be appropriate for Organic Farming, based on practical examples, and under what conditions they might be considered for addition to the EU Organic Farming regulations. The objective would be to then put proposals forward to EGTOP and to the European Commission, and to define what further information might be needed.

* Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/121 of 17 January 2023 amending and correcting Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1165 authorising certain products and substances for use in organic production and establishing their lists [HERE](#).

14h00 - Opening – Director of Research & Innovation, IFOAM Europe	5
Summary of RELACS conclusions and outputs and presentation of the FiBL " Reflections Paper " of 29/9/2021: Else Bünemann-König, FiBL	15
Current status of recycled nutrient materials and products in 2021/1165, recent updates, previous EGTOP Opinions: Frank Willem Oudshoorn, Aarhus Innovationscentre for Okologisk Landbrug and EGTOP	20
Discussion of 4 key questions – moderator tbc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solubility / plant availability of nutrients • origin of raw materials (sewage, manure, food waste ...) and limitations • chemicals used in recovery process and LCA • contaminants and safety 	45
Break	20
Discussion of example "pending" recycled nutrient products – moderator tbc : <i>In each case, 3-minute presentation of the recycled nutrient product by a producer / technology provider / recycler (addressing in particular the 4 questions above). Then questions and discussion.</i>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calcined phosphates (EGTOP Opinion 2/2/2016) – Tanja Schaaf, Outotec & Ludwig Hermann, Proman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process - nutrient plant availability / solubility - contaminants and safety 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biochars from food waste, food industry wastes - Helmut Gerber, Pyreg and Donata Chiari, European Biochar Industry Consortium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - contaminants and safety - link to EU Fertilising Products Regulation 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inorganic phosphate fertilisers derived from sewage sludge and slaughterhouse ashes – Anthony Zanelli, ICL Growing Solutions - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered ammonia sulphate from sewage treatment, food waste digestate – Wouter Naessens, Detricon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - chemicals and environmental impacts of nutrient recovery process: sulphuric acid = industrial by-product - nutrient plant availability / solubility - desirability of recycled nitrogen for Organic Farming and EGTOP Opinion June 2018 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilisers from aquaculture and other marine waste: Anne-Kristin Loes, Norsok and Krister Hagström, EasyMining RagnSells (pyrolysed aquaculture sludge), Sea2Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptability of secondary nutrients from aquaculture (fish farm sludge) and possible conditions (i.e. is aquaculture considered to be "factory farming origin" ?) - acceptability of secondary nutrients from seafood processing (processing both farmed and sea-catch seafood) 	10
Outline of some other "pending" recycled nutrient products: Chris Thornton, ESPP	5
Discussion and conclusions. Next steps. Moderator Robert Van Spingelen, ESPP President	20
Close 17h00 - Total	180