



Overview round tables

ManuREsource 2024

The round table discussions are organized on Thursday 21/03 between 11:10 and 13:10. There are two sessions of each 1 hour. Participants can choose a different topic for each session.

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If you are not subscribed yet to a table, you can join on 21/03 during both sessions any table which is not full or cancelled yet.





Table 1: Subsidy schemes for bio-based fertilizers (BBFs): How can policymakers boost adoption

The FERTIMANURE is a European project that seeks to create an innovative circular economy model that would support rural development in the agricultural sector by creating synergies and networking of farmers and other agro-industrial sectors. The HORIZON-funded project develops, integrates, tests and validates innovative Nutrient Management Strategies to efficiently recover mineral nutrients and other products with an agronomic value from manure, to finally obtain reliable and safe bio-based fertilizers (BBFs) that can compete in the EU fertilizers market.

In general, BBFs are governed by a complex landscape of policies at the EU and national levels. They aim to reduce the EU's dependence on imported mineral fertilizers by recycling and reusing nutrient-rich by-streams. Considering that there is no silver bullet to reduce this dependence, public policy could play an important role in boosting their adoption, although, the remaining key question is how.

With the upcoming strategic dialogue on the future of agriculture to be launched by the European Commission in January 2024 and the review of CAP national strategic plans on the horizon, it is the right moment to reflect on how policies can be adapted to reduce this dependence in advance of the reform of the CAP post-2027 regarding the BBFs.

Through the organized round table, participants will discuss how subsidies could help in the production or application of BBFs at the EU level. Covering topics such as “which instruments should be used, are subsidies an option and what should be subsidized considering the risks attached to a subsidies-dependent industry” will help prepare suggested proposals for measures in the upcoming period.



FERTIMANURE receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Framework Program under Grant Agreement no. 862849

Moderators: Ana-Marija Špicnagel (IPS Konzalting), Arturo Esclarín Ortiz (Schuttelaar & Partners)





Table 2: European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) discussion on pathway to market

The transition from a linear to circular economy in the EU, introduced by the Circular Action plan of the EC, provides a clear incentive for the introduction and use of BBF. The Urban Waste Water Directive, Waste Framework directive, the Fertilizers Product regulation and the Animal by-product regulation have clear objectives and criteria for the collection and recovery of organic matter and nutrients as valuable inputs to agriculture. Regulation is always following innovation, and legal solutions may be limited by practical details. The objective of this round table is to identify the main legislative barriers and opportunities for the use of BBF and to discuss possible solutions and challenges in the regulatory framework on BBF fertilizers.

Moderators: Laura Van Scholl (NMI) & Erik Meers (UGent)

Table 3: European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) discussion on sustainability assessment

Holistic sustainability analyses along the BBF life cycle are of interest to a multitude of stakeholders: policymakers, consumers, and producers. The benefits and impacts of BBFs are under debate. Their complexity and undefinition from other areas (e.g. the agronomic performance definition) create methodological challenges to analytical disciplines such as the Life Cycle assessment. This round table aims to debate BBF trade-offs in the three dimensions of sustainability: economic, environmental, and social as well as the main methodological challenges for their assessment.

Moderators: Jorge Senan Salinas (UVIC)

Table 4: European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) discussion on technology

A first approach to identify some of the technologies with promising potential on nutrient recycling was already done and discussion on the limitations or points of improvement found in each of them. The objective of this roundtable is to deepen on those limitations mentioned to conclude the main working hotspots needed from the research point of view in nutrient recycling technologies.

Moderators: Nagore Gorostegi (UVIC) + Laia Llenas (UVIC)





Table 5: European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative (ESNI) discussion on agronomic performance

Knowledge about agronomic performance of BBFs is prerequisite for them to be accepted by the farmers. However, due to large variation in raw materials used for producing them, combined with different growing conditions and soil properties across Europe, variations in agronomic performance, both in short- and long-term may exist. The objective of this roundtable will be to discuss about the need of appropriated and harmonized methodologies to characterize BBFs, assessment of agronomic performance and monitoring of their emissions. Also, the relevance of having a consensual nomenclature and finally to discuss how to ensure that characteristics of BBFs can meet crop needs and end user requirements.

Moderator: Kari Ylivaino

Table 6: Circular farming by collective manure digestion and N-stripping. An opportunity for farmers and governments.

Both the Netherlands and Flanders have ongoing problems with nitrogen emissions, where most suggested solution is the reduction of animals, mostly dairy cows. With our concept of centralized manure digestions with N-stripping, ammonia- and greenhouse gas emissions are reduced significantly. The produced renewable energy increases sustainability and potentially covers the costs for this license to produce for the farmers.

Meet us to discuss the possibilities, advantages and business case drivers, as the barriers we have to overcome for a major roll-out of this concept.

Moderator: Joop Colsen (Biogas Hulst)

Table 7: Valorizing of liquid ammonium sulphate

Natuchem BV produces ammonium sulphate via an innovative drying technique, by which the liquid product is separated in purified water and solid ammonium sulphate. This ammonium sulphate can be used as circular fertilizer, as raw material for fireproof products, or for other industrial applications.

Moderator: Natuchem BV





Table 8: Stratus: Launching an EU-27 wide AKIS network on biobased fertilizers, precision agriculture and soil quality - looking for collaborative links

The STRATUS EU project focusses on collaboration on fertilization to create optimal advice for farmers: bringing networks of stakeholders together. In this round table the EU project STRATUS likes to establish connections with you and your projects over Europe. In the meeting you get a very short introduction on the STRATUS project, what can we offer you, what could you mean for the target of STRATUS. Then we give you the opportunity to explain about your project and find common ground with us and other projects. An effective exchange will be facilitated with a handy key collaboration subject sheet.

Moderators: Peter Paree

Table 9: Innovatie agenda

The innovation agenda aims to support the transition from nutrient removal to nutrient recovery from manure. This is done by identifying bottlenecks, setting goals and finding solutions. This innovation agenda is generated by VCM on behalf of the Vlaamse Landmaatschappij (VLM), specifically the Mestbank as guidance for the manure processing industry in Flanders.

VCM tries to take into account different opinions and perspectives from all parties involved, ranging from the manure processors themselves to policy makers. Join this discussion to look for bottlenecks regarding manure processing and their innovative solutions at an international level.

Moderators: Philippe Tavernier

Table 10: NUTRIKNOW: "Translating Agricultural Knowledge into Action: Unveiling the Barriers and Catalysts with Stakeholders' insights"

Over the past years, a great amount of knowledge on managing practices, technologies, products and recommendations in the agricultural sector has been developed by several EU funded projects. Despite the continuous flow of information, new or improved managing choices have not always reached farmers and practitioners to their full potential.





What are the barriers and needs and how can different stakeholders contribute to a better knowledge translation into practice? Join us for an engaging round-table discussion exploring the practical facets of agricultural innovation focusing on nutrient management with insights from the Horizon Europe project NUTRI-KNOW. Using a bottom-up approach, we have unearthed local innovations, knowledge needs, and obstacles through surveys and interviews. Now, we invite you to this round table to validate our findings with a diverse audience.

Dive into a matchmaking exercise and actively contribute your experiences, perspectives, and insights on social, economic, legislative, knowledge communication, and environmental aspects. This interactive session seeks to bridge the gap between research and real-world applications, fostering a collective understanding of how farmers and practitioners embrace innovative practices.

Join our commitment to cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange in nutrient management towards a more sustainable European agri-food sector. Your opinion matters - let's cultivate change together!

Moderators: Hongzhen Luo (UGent), Céline Wyffels (Biogas-E)

Approach:

- Introduction of NUTRI-KNOW project (5 min)
- Introduction of round-table discussion and identified barriers and stakeholders (5 min)
- Interactive co-creation on barriers and needs identified for 5 aspects (5*10 min)

