

# International newsletter May 2023



Novafert aims to demonstrate the technical, economic, and environmental feasibility and safe use of a wide portfolio of alternative fertilising products from different waste streams.

# NOVAFERT: Enhancing the use of alternative fertilisers



Over the next 3 years, 9 multidisciplinary actors from 6 European countries will join their forces to contribute to the transition to the circular economy by developing novel procedures and sustainable guidelines to enhance the use of alternative fertilisers. Kicked-off in September 2022 in Ghent (Belgium), the Novafert project will demonstrate the technical, economic, and environmental feasibility and safe use of a wide portfolio of at least 25 alternative fertilising products, containing recovered nutrients from 6 different waste streams, with the goal of facilitating the replacement of synthetic and mineral fertilisers.

Read more here

### News from the project

#### **NOVAFERT** at the ESNI Conference



The ESNI Conference will be back on **20 September 2023 in Brussels**. Being one of the major events on nutrient recycling, the ESNI Conference will provide a comprehensive framework of the policies promoting the nutrient recycling and recovery (NRR) at European level as well as a focus on the role of EU-funded R&I projects in contributing to raise awareness on the benefits of nutrient recycling and reuse.

Within the framework of the conference, NOVAFERT will actively participate by co-organising a parallel workshop.

More information on how to register to the event will be shared soon.

Stay tuned!

**NOVAFERT leads the WG on Sustainability Assessment of the Nutrient Recycling Community** 



The Working Group on Sustainability is aimed to enhance and robust the existing knowledge about the environmental impact of the use of recycled derived fertilizers (RDFs) or biobased fertilisers (BBFs) obtained from different waste streams. The current webinar series is oriented towards a more meaningful environmental assessment of BBFs through their whole life cycle from production to application, allowing a fair comparison with the mineral counterparts through a consistent and consensual Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).

Read more here

NOVAFERT works on a report on EU nutrient recovery technologies and products across Europe



In WP1, the first deliverable 'D1.1 report on EU nutrient recovery technologies and derived products' compiled information on nutrient recovery technologies and products across Europe covering sources from six different side streams from regions own resources and from existing EU projects and nutrient recovery

platforms.

Read more here

EIT FOOD joined the Road to Sustainability in Agriculture Conference at CEJA

Last month, EIT Food had the opportunity to introduce NOVAFERT during the event organized by the European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA) - The road to sustainability in agriculture -May 16th in Brussels (Belgium). In a Panel discussion on soils health and sustainability, EIT Food presented what its been done from the organization to support farmers and the agrifood industry to adopt more sustainable practices in order to restore and maintain soil health to guarantee sufficient, nutritious, sustainable and affordable food for all.



## IPS Konzalting on the 58<sup>th</sup> Croatian & 18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Agriculture

On February 15 of this year, IPS Konzalting participated on the 58th Croatian & 18th International Symposium on Agriculture in Dubrovnik. Reducing the adverse impact of agronomy on the environment and the loss of biodiversity is a current priority, so the necessity of establishing cooperation between stakeholders in the agricultural and food system is still highlighted. IPS Konzalting participated in the section -Precision agriculture and sustainable production and presented the NOVAFERT project, its goals, expected results and activities that will follow the 3 during next years.



Read more here

### Country news

#### **IRELAND**

## REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED IN IRELAND

Teagasc has established a core regional working group in Ireland which involves members from agricultural advisory, research, farmers, and industry which is meeting on a regular basis to exchange and disseminate information regarding to nutrient recycling on a regular basis and to promote the work of Novafert.

Read more here

#### **POLAND**

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN POLAND

On 21 February 2023, the European Commission adopted Implementing Decision C(2023) 1374 approving the amendment of the Rural Development Programme for Poland for support under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and amending Implementing Decision C(2014) 9783.

Read more here

#### **BELGIUM**

# NUTRICYCLE VLAANDEREN ORGANISES A CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FARMING

On 20 June 2023, Nutricycle Vlaanderen welcomes you to a conference on sustainable farming, including an explanation of the new Manure Regulation (MAP7).

Nutricycle Vlaanderen will give the floor to the various policy areas, agricultural and sector organizations and nature conservation organisations.

Expect an afternoon full of inspiring presentations and a networking reception.

Read more here

#### **POLAND**

# AZOTY GROUP FERTILISERS COMPLIES WITH THE LATEST EU REQUIREMENTS

The Polish Centre for Testing and Certification has completed the process of assessing the compliance of Grupa Azoty's fertiliser products with the requirements set out in Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 of the European Parliament and the Council. On the basis of the assessment, Grupa Azoty received certificates confirming that the Group's fertiliser products meet the requirements applicable in the EU from 16

July 2022. The certificates also confirm the compliance of quality assurance systems for production processes.

#### **SPAIN**

## REGIONAL WORKING GROUP IN ANDALUSIA

Last May 24th, 2023, a regional event took place in the framework of NOVAFERT project and in collaboration with another Horizon Europe project, P2GreeN, also devoted to the use of secondary raw materials to produce fertilisers, in Velez-Malaga, Axarquia area, within Andalusian region. This event, constitutes the first NOVAFERT Regional Working Group (RWG) meeting, was organised by BIOAZUL in collaboration with other regional P2GreeN partners: Trops, the first transnational producers organisation of Andalusia, specialised in the production and marketing of avocado and mango; Cetaqua, a public-private water technology centre with headquarters in four different locations, one of them Andalusia: water Axaragua, the management company of the of the Costa del Sol - Axarquia region; and AgriSmart Data, a company devoted to smart farming.

Read more here

#### **SPAIN**

## REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED IN CATALONIA

The regional working group from Cataluña has been established and held its inaugural meeting on May 30th, 2023. The working group comprises members from the quadruple helix, encompassing universities, representatives from the social sector (such as farmer associations and the board of sustainable livestock management in the region) as well as members from a private fertilizer industry, the regional government, consultancies specializing in fertilizer regulation, and private entrepreneurs in the areas of livestock and waste management.

Read more <u>here</u>

### **Synergies**



FER-PLAY is working to protect ecosystems, decrease EU dependence on fertiliser imports, and improve resource efficiency through the promotion of alternative fertilisers. The project already mapped and will assess alternative fertilisers made from secondary raw materials and highlight their multiple benefits to foster their wide-scale production and application. Subscribe to their newsletter, in which they share news from the project, including activities, outputs, and events, and learn more about FER-PLAY and the work they will be doing throughout the project in this video.

Read more here

### Save the date



ESPP is organising a meeting on White Ammonia and N-recovery Research (WARM), in Brussels and hybrid on 7<sup>th</sup> June, to explore the issues and challenges this involves. WARM is the first ever international meeting to bring together research on nitrogen recovery, to develop routes to recycling nitrogen to industry, covering ammonia recovery for industrial recycling, nitrogen recycling in biological systems (algae, microbial protein), and other routes such as stabilization of nitrogen in manure and recovered nitrogen products from separate urine.

Read more here

#### Meet the team!



Teagasc – the Agriculture and Food Development Authority – is the national body providing integrated research, advisory and training services to the agriculture and food industry and rural communities in Ireland. Dónal Kinsella is a research officer based in Teagasc Johnstown Castle working on the Novafert project. Teagasc is responsible for leading work package one on Novafert.

#### Learn more about Teagasc here



EIT Food is the world's largest agrifood innovation community, creating connections right across the food system that stimulate new ideas and innovations to drive change: between startups and corporates; between entrepreneurs and investors; between consumers and industry; between research and action; between ideas and reality; between present and future. EIT Food South will lead the knowledge and innovation management, to maximise the impact of the project and support the wider adoption of alternative fertilising products, in line with EIT Food's mission to achieving a net-zero food system.

Learn more about EIT-FOOD here







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