

News on biobased resource recovery

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Dear circular economy enthusiast,

We are back with an issue plenty of news from the circular economy world!

The Biorefine community is getting bigger and new interesting activities are there to get you involved in stimulating debates on bio-based resource recovery.

This time our Bulletin turns the spotlight on Prolific, a BBI-JU funded Research and Innovation Action. You will know more on how the project is developing and applying new processes and technological solutions to transform agro-industrial residues into higher value products.

Opportunities and challenges of developing novel end-products from roadside grass fibres will be discussed in the upcoming Grassification webinar. Not only results from the project will be showcased, but also practical experiences from the market!

More than this, breaking news on projects from our community will enrich your reading and will keep you informed on their latest progress and results. And to make your reading even more interesting, do not forget to take a peek at the publications and the upcoming events we chose for you!

We wish you a pleasant reading!

The BCE Team

Our latest updates will be waiting for you at @Bioref_Cluster and www.biorefine.eu. See you there!

You wish to share any news with us? Get in touch! info@biorefine.eu

Circular economy

The BCE community is growing!



The Biorefine Cluster is happy to welcoming SEA2LAND, Water2REturn and Ecofunco in its network!

[SEA2LAND](#) improves and adapts technologies for nutrient recovery to produce biobased fertilizers (BBFs) from fish processing and aquaculture byproducts.

[Water2REturn](#) proposes a full-scale demonstration process for integrated nutrients recovery from wastewater from the slaughterhouse industry using biochemical and physical technologies and a positive balance in energy footprint.

[Ecofunco](#) selects, extracts and functionalises molecules such as proteins, cutin, polysaccharides, polyphenols, carotenoids, and fatty acids from readily available, low-valorised biomass sources.

Project news

4th Phosphorus in Europe Research Meeting (PERM)



The PERM event, co-organised by ESPP, Biorefine Cluster Europe and ETA-Florence Renewable Energies, will take place on 2 June from 9.00 to 15:30 CEST. It will link science, industry, agriculture and policy makers. EU-funded projects on nutrient sustainability and phosphorus recycling (Horizon2020,

Interreg, LIFE...) and national and company nutrient projects will present, enabling dialogue and synergies.

Read more [here](#)

Project's corner

A focus on Prolific



PROLIFIC is a BBI-JU funded research and innovation action. A consortium gathering 18 partners develops and applies new processes and technological solutions to transform agro-industrial residues into higher value products. Its cascading approach extracts proteins and bioactive molecules from legumes, fungi and coffee agro-industrial side-streams.

Read more [here](#)

The trend for vegan or high nutritional value and functional food is unbroken. Recovering the required protein from agro-industrial side-streams would enhance the overall efficiency of arable land use without compromising food production. Partners [SSICA](#), [University of Parma](#) and [IRIS](#) investigated three different extraction methods: an environmentally friendly aqueous extraction (EFAE), an ultrasound assisted approach (UAE) and an enzyme-assisted hydrolysis (EAE).

Read more [here](#)





PROLIFIC extracts valuable compounds from agro-industrial side streams. Protein, polyphenols or fibres shall find future application in food, cosmetics, animal feed, or packaging. During the first two years of the project, partners have developed and optimized different methods to extract compounds from peas, chickpeas, coffee green beans and various fungi feedstock.

Read more [here](#)

There is great potential for green innovations of plastic packaging. Already in its first public workshop “Residual Biomasses for Eco-compatible and Sustainable Food Packaging”, Prolific explored the various options to produce and apply bio-based polymers or biomass-derived fillers.

Read more [here](#)



Project news

Grassification webinar on 'Developing Novel End-Products from Grass Fibres'



The Grassification project is delighted to invite you to its upcoming webinar on 'Developing Novel End-Products from Grass Fibres', which will be held on **Wednesday 16 June from 10:00 to 11:30 CEST**.

During the webinar project partners will present the possibilities and feasibility of producing different building materials and landscape infrastructures from grass fibres.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Latest updates from RECOVER



RECOVER is a 4-year project scaling up an innovative biotech solution for the non-recyclable plastic packaging and agricultural films waste streams, based on the combination of plastic-degrading microorganisms, novel enzymes, earthworms and insects resulting in new feedstocks, chitin and chitosan for plastics and coatings, new fertilizers for the primary sector and bio-based industries.

During the first year of activities, a set of insect, earthworms, microbial consortia, and target enzyme families has been selected, and their capability to feed on or hydrolyse the target polymers are being tested.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Recycling Derived Fertilisers, what are they?



Lead scientists in Munster Technological University (MTU), Ireland, as partners in the Interreg NWE Renu2Farm project, undertook a four-year study that looked at recycling nutrients back to the farm. Through a survey of over 1,200 farmers, the researchers in MTU found that the farming community are not familiar with the term Recycling Derived Fertilisers (RDFs).

In response to this information, they produced a short educational video to help inform the farming community about these sustainable and recycled products.

Read more and check the video [here](#)

Project news

Run4Life joins the EU Green Week!



This year the EU Green Week is dedicated to 'zero pollution ambition' in water, air and soil. Run4Life will join the EU Green Week by organizing several partner events. Demonstration-sites Vigo and Sneek will open their doors, at the 31st of May you can join the 'Open Day' physically and online. On the 3rd of June project partner ISLE organises an innovation workshop about the fertiliser products recovered at the Run4Life demonstration sites.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Water2REturn enters its last year!



Water2REturn has entered its last year! Due to the current situation with COVID-19, works at Water2REturn site have been slowed down for some months during 2020, thus the project has been granted with an extension of 15 months to properly complete all project activities.

Read more [here!](#)

Project news

Phos4You: PULSE demonstrator running at wastewater treatment plant in Belgium



Currently, an innovative P-recovery process is being demonstrated by the University of Liège at the AIDE wastewater treatment plant in Oupeye. The PULSE demonstrator (Phosphorus ULiège Sludge Extraction) enables phosphorus to be recovered from dried sludge directly after wastewater treatment.

Read more [here](#)

Project news

Research & Development connections "Environmental transition and circular economy"



The environmental transition and the development of the circular economy open up important areas of innovation for the cosmetics sector.

In order to seize the associated economic development opportunities, Cosmetic Valley, a partner in the AgriWasteValue project, is organizing a day for connecting researchers and industry around collaborative innovation projects.

The event is taking place on 8 June and it is in French only.

Read more on the event [here](#)

Project news

ECOFUNCO Multi stakeholders platform



After months of research, ECOFUNCO is ready to share its Multi-stakeholders platform. The platform has been thought as a collection of already existing and verified sources, such as open platforms to find partners for collaborations, and lists of websites and key actors providing verified data on the sector of bio-based economy, with a specific attention to bio-based coatings and bioplastics.

Read more [here](#)



Systemic presents the concept of nutrient recycling in agriculture and the five biogas plants participating in the project with interviews with owners and engineers.

Food for thought..

[Science Direct - Phosphorus recovery from wastewater by struvite in response to initial nutrients concentration and nitrogen/phosphorus molar ratio](#)

[Science Direct - Soil texture affects the coupling of litter decomposition and soil organic matter formation](#)

Upcoming events

Save the date!



RRB 2021 - Renewable Resources and Biorefineries 2021

6-8 September 2021, Aveiro, Portugal

The 17th edition of the International Conference on Renewable Resources & Biorefineries will take place in Aveiro, Portugal from Monday 6 Sept until Wednesday 8 Sept, 2021. Delegates from university, industry, governmental and non-governmental organizations and venture capital providers will present their views on industrial biotechnology, sustainable (green) chemistry and agricultural policy related to the use of renewable raw materials for non-food applications and energy supply.

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RAMIRAN 2021

20-23 September 2021, Cambridge, United Kingdom

RAMIRAN "Recycling of Agricultural, Municipal and Industrial Residues in Agriculture Network" is a research and expertise network set up over 25 years ago to improve nutrient utilisation and minimise the environmental impact from livestock manure and other organic material use in agricultural systems.

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Nature Conference - Waste Management and Valorisation for a Sustainable Future

26-28 October 2021, Korea University, Seoul, South Korea

The development of sustainable waste management strategies has become a major concern throughout the world. This conference focuses on "recycling" and "recovery" of waste material while paving the way towards circular economy, land reclamation, and water and wastewater treatments.

Local and overseas experts from different sectors including academic researchers, industrial practitioners, green groups, and government departments will be gathered in this program.

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ManuResource 2021

24-25 November 2021, 's Hertogenbosch (NL)

Circular agriculture with low emissions and nutrient recovery from manure is high on the

European Union agenda. ManuREsource is an international triple-helix conference for scientists, policy makers, consultants, farmers and professionals on the theme of manure management. The conference aims to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy by exchanging experiences and knowledge with concerned international stakeholders and policy makers

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The Biorefine Cluster is supported by the European Biogas Association (EBA), a no-profit organisation which advocates for recognition of biomethane and other renewable gases as sustainable, on demand and flexible energy sources that provide multiple knock on socio-economic and environmental benefits. Learn more [here](#)



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