

ARVALIS - Institut du végétal in the scope of ReNu2Farm



Struvite bags (Photo Vallei en Veluwe)

Under the approach of ReNu2Farm to increase the use of recycling-derived fertilisers, it is essential to gain a better understanding on how the products that are currently available on the market can be utilised, depending on the geographic location and climate. To this aim, Arvalis is gathering reference data in field as well as in lab conditions, regarding the phosphate fertilising value of several new recycling-derived fertilisers (ash from poultry litter or sewage sludge, struvite), as well as on the short term nitrogen fertilising value of organic products obtained from the combination of solid fractions of pig slurry and of poultry manure from Belgium and the Netherlands.

The institute is carrying out a survey among farmers in northern France to assess the level of acceptability of recycling-derived fertilisers, and to identify what impedes their use. It also takes part in regional studies to estimate their potential use precisely⁽¹⁾, taking into account the crop rotations, current fertilisation practices, and chemical and organic fertility of the soil. Once this has been completed, Arvalis will disseminate advice to farmers on how to use these fertilisers, through a series of technical meetings, press articles and training sessions. The project's findings will help to enhance the "Fertilisation using organic products" Arvalis' calculator and will be made available, free of charge, to farmers and to advisors on Arvalis' website by the end of 2019.

(1) These studies will be based on the most recent statistics from the French Department of Agriculture and UNIFA (Union des industries françaises de la fertilisation), as well as on the Department's soil analysis databases.

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