

SOFIE: 1st Summit of the Organic and Organo-mineral Fertiliser Industry in Europe

ESPP in partnership with IFS (International Fertiliser Society)

Brussels, Belgium (walking distance of Gare du Midi and Gare Centrale) **5th - 6th June**

You will receive venue address after registration.

Register for SOFIE: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sofie-organic-fertilizers-summit-tickets-55703185728
and to book stands (=1800€/ 900€) info@phosphorusplatform.eu

SOFIE follows the IFS Technical Conference 4th – 5th June
<https://fertiliser-society.org/event/2019-ifs-technical-conference.aspx>

Wednesday 5th June - 14h00 – 18h00

14h00 – 15h45 - How the organic fertiliser industry is seen from outside and inside

1. 10^h: Opening. Board member, ESPP and Luc Maene, International Fertiliser Society.
2. 20^h: Laetitia Fourié, ECOFI (European Consortium of the Organic-Based Fertilizer Industry) and Angibaud Derome. What is an organic fertiliser and what is the organic fertiliser industry today in Europe: input materials, structure of industry, types of products, applications.
3. 15^h: Wim van Dijk, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands. The importance of developing organic fertilisers products and markets for the Circular Economy.
4. 15^h: Mugurel Surupaceanu, Humintrade SRL, Romania. Links between humic products, nutrients, organic fertiliser products and agronomic performance.
5. 20^h: Florence Nys, UNIFA (French organic and mineral fertilisers association) and Vincent Walker, OVINALP. The organic fertiliser sector in France: circular economy, synergies for the fertilisers sector and added-value for farmers, with two case-studies presented by companies.
6. 25^h: questions and discussion

15h45- 16h15 – break

16h15 – 18h00 Do the claims for organic fertilisers stand the test of science?

7. 20^h: John Williams, ADAS UK. What does agronomic science tell us about the value to farmers and to soil of organic amendments?
8. 20^h: David Powlson, Rothamsted Research UK. Do organic fertilisers bring benefits to farmers beyond their nutrient value? Can they contribute to climate change mitigation by sequestering carbon in soil as in the “4p1000” initiative?
9. 20^h: Claudio Ciavatta, University of Bologna, Italy. Why do Mediterranean soil – plant systems need organic inputs? Can organic fertilisers effectively provide nutrients and organic matter? Examples of organic fertilisers in the circular economy.
10. 20^h: Maria Pilar Bernal, CEBAS-CSIC, Murcia, Spain. What new types of organic fertiliser are today available for Mediterranean soils? What are the benefits, limitations and perspectives for new developments?
11. 25^h: questions and discussion

Evening (18h00 – 20h30): Networking dinner – walking cocktail at the conference venue

Thursday 6th June - 9h00 – 16h30

9h00 – 10h45 - Perspectives for the organic fertiliser industry

12. 10": Chris Thornton, ESPP. Why organic fertilisers are key to Circular Phosphorus? Why the EU Fertilisers Regulation is important? Why this conference?
13. 15": Geert Brosens, CEO of Fertikal. Converting regional secondary resources into targeted export markets, perspectives for development.
14. 15": Becky Wheeler, Director of 4R Group UK. Organics recycling from a UK perspective: Generating added value for upstream material sources and end users.
15. 15": Hannamaija Fontell, Director, R&D and Business Development, Biolan Oy, Finland. Perspectives for organic fertiliser products and industry in Scandinavia.
16. 15": Eljas Jokinen, CEO, SoilFood Oy, Finland. Business opportunities in the circular economy: recycling nutrients, sequestering carbon and improving soil quality.
17. 30": panel discussion with speakers + David Powlson and John Williams (speakers 5th June)

10h45 – 11h15 Break

11h15 – 13h00 - Regulatory challenges for the organic fertiliser industry

18. 20": Mariano Alessio Verni, SILC Fertilizzanti. Overview of regulatory perspectives: REACH, Plant Protection and Animal By-Products.
19. 30": Johanna Bernsel, European, European Commission DG GROW. The new European Fertilisers Regulation: key points for industry, interactions between the new EU Regulation and national fertilisers regulations, implementation status
20. 40": Questions and discussion

13h00 – 14h00 Lunch

13h30 – Opportunities for the organic fertiliser industry

21. 15" Stefaan Vandaele, Agaris and President Growing Media Europe. Interactions between growing media and organic fertiliser markets, products, companies.
22. 30" – five minute 'visions' from different industries: Chiara Manoli, ECOFI (ILSA), EuroFema; Irmgard Leifert, European Compost Network (Reterra); Gregory Reuland, European Biogas Association; Tiffanie Stephani, Fertilizers Europe.
23. Some specific aspects of the EU Fertilisers Regulation
 - 10": Leon Fock, Culterra Holland. The new EU Fertilisers Regulation 'CE Mark' process, roadmap to CE marking in practice.
 - 10": Laurent Largent, General Delegate of AFAIA (French federation for manufacturers of soil improvers, growing media, organic and organo-mineral fertilizers, mulches and biostimulants), President of TC223, participant in two other TCs. Standards to accompany the EU Fertilisers Regulation, what is needed? What priorities? How CEN TCs organize the work?
 - 10": Theodora Nikolakopoulou, European Commission DG GROW: implementation and future development of the Regulation framework

14h45 – 15h15 Break

24. 1h15: Panel discussion (with speakers above + M. Alessio Verni) on regulatory opportunities and challenges and on actions to accompany industry adaptation and implementation

16h30 Closure - Ludwig Hermann, Proman, ESPP President