

Defining “Bio-Based Fertilisers” and FPR “solely biological origin”

ESPP working meeting, 18th January 2024, Brussels & online

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Meeting objectives

The term “Bio-Based Fertilisers” is today being widely used. For market transparency and policy making, it is important to have a clear and agreed definition of what is a “Bio-Based Fertiliser” and how to define the “Bio-Based” nutrient and carbon content of fertilising products. Separately, the EU Fertilising Products Regulation 2019/2009 uses the term “of solely biological origin” for nutrients and carbon in criteria of several PFCs and there is today no clarity on how this should be interpreted.

CEN and ISO methodologies for “Bio-based products: vocabulary” and for defining bio-based content are based on carbon radio dating and are not applicable to nutrients.

This meeting will discuss:

- relevance of bio-based definitions for markets and policy making
- existing official bio-based vocabulary (CEN, ISO, plastics sector, industry labels)
- what comparable methodologies could be applied to recycled nutrients in fertilisers and in other applications?
- possible coherence with FPR terminology “of solely biological origin”
- wording of a joint industry / R&D position on proposed definitions (this will take as a starting point the ESPP proposed working document [HERE](#))
- proposed next steps, possible input to policy makers, to CEN ...

Programme

10h30	European Commission, DG GROW (<i>Theodora Nikolakopoulou</i>): EU initiative on standards for the bio-based economy + nutrients and carbon “of solely biological origin” in the FPR PFCs, status of discussions on interpretation, possible links to definition of “bio-based nutrients” European Commission, DG RTD (<i>Bertrand Vallet</i>): EU BioEconomy Strategy Fertilisers Europe (<i>Jan Chys</i>): importance of standards for industry transparency, markets and clear regulation <i>Discussion</i>
12h15	Lunch break
13h30	CEN (<i>Alessia Gaetani</i>): outline of relevant existing CEN and ISO standards (for bio-based vocabulary, quantification of bio-based content, bio-based plastics, ...) and work underway Horizon2020 project Lex4Bio (<i>Kari Ylivainio, LUKE</i>): work of R&D community on definitions of “Bio-Based Fertilisers” Horizon2020 project Fertimanure (<i>Laia Llenas Argelaguet, BETA Technological Center/UVic</i>): relevance of this definition for different nutrient recycling routes Eurofema (<i>Leon Fock</i>) Ecofi Presentation of “joint proposal” : ESPP <i>Discussion</i>
15h00	Coffee break
15h30	Working meeting to develop the joint proposal and define next actions With panel: <i>Penelope Vincent-Sweet (EEB/ECOS)</i> , <i>Theodora Nikolakopoulou (DG GROW)</i> , <i>Leon Fock (Eurofema)</i> , <i>Alessia Gaetani (CEN)</i> , <i>Jan Chys (Fertilizers Europe)</i>
16h30	Close

Location

Atelier29, Rue Jacques de Lalaing 29, 1000 Bruxelles

Registration

Available on [Eventbrite](#).