Nutrient recycles for organic farming

Context

Closing nutrient cycles is one of the corner stones of organic farming. In the case of phosphorus, the only allowed option to compensate losses is fossil phosphate rock with its limited fertilising efficiency and other issues of concern.
Recent developments for nutrient recovery from bio-based waste streams provide alternative materials, recyclates, appearing also to be suitable for organic farming. Before being able to make use them, the stakeholders along the organic farming and food production value chain need to agree on acceptance criteria for both, the recyclates and the process chain. Only then, there will be a chance to get the promising candidates included in the organic farming fertiliser regulation.

Objectives

To enable the application of nutrient recyclates in organic farming, suitable market relevant recyclates and recovery processes will be identified in the course of the project. Stakeholders along the organic farming and food production value chain will be directly involved. Results like criteria for acceptance, market potentials and availability will be directly fed into the national and European working groups.

Activities

- Intensive and interactive stakeholder dialogue to define criteria for acceptance
- Assessment of the market potential of P recyclates in organic farming
- Characterisation of quality of suitable recyclates
- Application of organic farming assessment methods adapted to specific organic farming requirements for both, products and processes (LCA, risk assessment

Duration: 1/2017 – 12/2018

Project Volume: 350 k€

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Partners

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