



PAYS DE LA LOIRE - LEGAL POINTS

RUSTICA test case: A view on legal points in Pays de la Loire

SHORT SUMMARY FOR PRACTITIONERS

EN version

The goal of RUSTICA is to foster circular bio-based nutrient valorisation chains starting from residues and side streams of the fruit and vegetable agro-food system. Validation takes place at the regional level and a test case is established in Pays de la Loire. To launch fertilisers and soil improvers onto the market, the legal environment is paramount. Apart from getting market access via the harmonised legal prescriptions of the new EU Fertilising Products Regulation, routes can be selected by taking advantage of the Rural Code, market authorisation and/or a wide range of standards which apply to various plant nutrition concepts in France.

However, the novel value chains and products need to be individually evaluated on their possibilities to match the requirements of a legal framework either opening the gate to EU market or solely to the national territory. In particular, a thorough verification is recommended if waste is intended to serve as a feedstock for certain fertilising products.

SHORT SUMMARY FOR PRACTITIONERS

NATIVE version

L'objectif de RUSTICA est de favoriser l'émergence d'une filière en économie circulaire d'engrais biosourcés à partir des déchets de fruits et légumes. La validation se fait au niveau régional et un site pilote pour les tests fertilisation est établi en Pays de la Loire. Pour rendre disponible ces nouveaux engrais sur le marché, l'environnement légal est primordial. Outre l'accès au marché via les prescriptions juridiques du nouveau règlement européen sur les fertilisants, des pistes peuvent être dégagées en tirant parti du code rural, de l'autorisation de mise sur le marché et/ou d'un large éventail de normes en France.

Cependant, les nouvelles chaînes de valeur et les nouveaux produits doivent être évalués individuellement quant à leur aptitude à répondre aux exigences d'un cadre juridique pour intégrer le marché national et européen. De là, une vérification approfondie est recommandée afin de déterminer si les déchets peuvent être destinés à servir de matière première dans la fabrication de produits type engrais et fertilisants.



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CONTEXT

To date, vast quantities of waste along the way from agricultural production to market are considered dispensable and are disposed. Simultaneously, linear production chains dominate production and supply of fertilisers rather than models focusing on valuable nutrient substances from waste. Hence, new solutions are needed by incorporating the benefits of regional circular concepts.

PROBLEM

Despite manifold possibilities on the use of fruit and vegetable residues for fertiliser production already established in EU and national legal frameworks, placing on the market in France needs a precise examination if compliance with legal requirements can be achieved. Specific rules need to be abided by if waste is set as the feedstock or starting point for the manufacture of fertilisers.

SOLUTION

RUSTICA comprehensively tackles the issues of legislative and political environment related to circular bio-based fertilisers, thereby analysing legislative situations from the international and EU perspective to national and regional stipulations in Pays de la Loire. Furthermore, the RUSTICA project involves investigations on rules concerning application of fertilisers in the EU and their transposition in France and Pays de la Loire. Moreover, legal aspects of organic farming are embraced by the studies. Results of the work are published and available for policy makers and authorities.

OUTCOME

1. A detailed and publicly available report (D3.6) on national and regional legislation in the test regions in EU countries and Colombia revealing options and constraints of RUSTICA developments has been prepared.
2. A dedicated summary on major criteria in national and regional legislation in France and Pays de la Loire relevant for stakeholders and marketing of the new technologies is elaborated.
3. An integration of the subject into workshops enabling a broad discussion on legal situations, positions and future needs in the Pays de la Loire test region has been made.

PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- An evaluation of the feedstocks and precursors of fertilising products identifying their legal options for the individual value chains;
- A verification of the processing methods and comparison with legal requirements to recognize further needs;
- An assessment of contents, such as nutrient values, contaminants and pollutants of the fertilising products, blends and mixtures in terms of compliance with legislation;
- A consideration of legal sources addressing environmental issues, e.g., water (nitrate) and fertiliser application;