

TEST CASE VALLE DEL CAUCA – LEGAL POINTS

RUSTICA TEST CASES - A VIEW ON LEGAL POINTS IN VALLE DEL CAUCA

SHORT SUMMARY FOR PRACTITIONERS

EN version

RUSTICA strives for technologies on bio-based fertilisers and soil improvers which are validated in four European test cases and in the Colombian test region Valle del Cauca. Targeting closed and sustainable nutrient cycles by using methods involving waste and by-products triggers the question on the situation in terms of legal frameworks either fostering or impeding an introduction onto the market. The Colombian Agricultural Institute is the competent authority for legal and technical matters as regards fertilisers and soil amendments in Colombia. There are five different main classes of fertilisers including organic fertilisers and organic conditioners while marketing of organic fertilisers needs to consider six subcategories.

Detailed prescriptions are laid down for compost and digestate from anaerobic digestion. Specific requirements are linked to biofertilisers. Organic farming is legally defined and represented by a dedicated national label. The stipulations of a registration process are very important if one intends to commercialise fertiliser materials, e.g., from insects or biochar.

SHORT SUMMARY FOR PRACTITIONERS

NATIVE version

RUSTICA se esfuerza por desarrollar tecnologías en fertilizantes orgánicos y mejoradores del suelo que están siendo validados en cuatro casos de prueba europeos y en la región de prueba colombiana del Valle del Cauca. Al apuntar a ciclos de nutrientes cerrados y sostenibles mediante el uso de métodos que involucran residuos y subproductos, surge la pregunta sobre la situación en términos de marcos legales que ya sea fomenten o impidan su introducción en el mercado. El Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario es la autoridad competente en asuntos legales y técnicos relacionados con fertilizantes y enmiendas del suelo en Colombia. Existen cinco clases principales diferentes de fertilizantes, incluidos los fertilizantes orgánicos y los acondicionadores orgánicos, mientras que la comercialización de fertilizantes orgánicos considera seis subcategorías.

Se establecen prescripciones detalladas para el compost y el digestato de la digestión anaeróbica. Requisitos específicos están vinculados a los biofertilizantes. La agricultura orgánica está legalmente definida y representada por una etiqueta nacional. Las estipulaciones de un proceso de registro son muy importantes si se pretende comercializar materiales fertilizantes, por ejemplo, a partir de insectos o biocarbón.





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CONTEXT

Currently, the Colombian legal and regulatory frameworks reflect detailed rules on a variety of organic fertilisers. Specifications on composting and digestate from anaerobic digestion are available while at the same time, imports of inorganic fertilisers are of particular relevance in the country. As to that, novel circular fertilising products could unfold a tailored plant nutrition, perfect soil condition and new perspectives for the entire sector in Valle del Cauca and Colombia.

PROBLEM

A multitude of possibilities on the use of fruit and vegetable residues for generating organic fertilisers and soil improvers is available in national legal frameworks as regards placing on the market in Colombia. However, a meticulous view on the rules of registration is requested if specific sectors like insects or biochar are addressed and compliance with legal frameworks shall be achieved.

SOLUTION

RUSTICA identifies, monitors and reports legal drivers and drawbacks related to circular bio-based fertilisers. Aside from international and European Union law, the project deals with situations and future outlooks at national and regional scale in Colombia and Valle del Cauca. Moreover, legal points of organic agriculture are evaluated and recorded in the project. 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.
2. A dedicated summary on major criteria in national and regional legislation in Colombia and Valle del Cauca relevant for stakeholders and marketing of the new technologies.
3. An integration of the subject into workshops enabling a broad discussion on legal situations, positions and future needs in the Valle del Cauca 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., emissions) and fertiliser application;