

GRA Manure Management Network Webinar

16th February 2022

Selected unanswered questions with written answers

If you have further questions about the content of the webinar, please contact the relevant presenters directly.

Question	Answer
What are the threshold values for P that limit the application of manures/slurries? Don't the regulations only provide the rate of land application in there of N (i.e. NO ₃ ⁻ in the soil)? Is the phosphorus legacy regulated somehow?	This depends in the regulations of each country. As far as I know, in countries such as Belgium and the Netherlands, there is a specific P max concentration that can be applied in the soil. In Catalonia (Spain), there are also specific regions in which the amount of P is limited.
What is the adopted process to produce high quality fertilizer from raw manure?	I am not sure if I understand this question. There are many options to treat and valorise pig slurry, and there isn't a single solution that is already adopted. Depending on the needs of each farmer, the technologies to recover nutrients from the pig slurry can be different.
Would you label biogas slurry (digestates) as a BBF? Due to its common usage, it is already part of the surplus problem. But it is also a refined fertilizer out of "residues" with lower climate gas emissions compared to manure. It would be nice to know how you have labelled it for yourself.	It depends on what you consider as a bio-based fertiliser (BBF). Currently, there is not a single definition of BBF. For example, in the framework of FERTIMANURE, we do not consider the digestate as a BBF. However, there are many people/studies/projects, where digestate or even the liquid fraction of manure is considered a BBF. Current definition of BBF that we consider in FERTIMANURE is the following: <i>Bio-based fertilisers (BBFs) are fertilising products or a component to be used in the production of (Tailor-Made) Fertilisers that are derived from biomass-related resources. The BBFs of FERTIMANURE are "obtained through a physical, thermal/thermo-chemical, chemical, and/or biological processes for the treatment of manure or digestate that result into a change in composition due to a change in concentration of nutrients and their ratios compared to the input material(s) in order to get better marketable products providing farmers with nutrients of sufficient quality". However, just separation of manure in a solid and liquid fraction (as first processing step) is excluded. These products are not conceived as a BBF, although they are valuable sources to supply nutrients on agricultural land.</i> In the ManuREsource conference (https://www.vcm-mestverwerking.be/en/manuresource/23001/manuresource-2021), we have organised a roundtable to specifically discuss this issue.