

SOFIE: 1st Summit of the Organic Fertiliser Industry in Europe

ESPP in partnership with IFS (International Fertiliser Society)

Brussels, Belgium (within walking distance of Gare du Midi and Gare Centrale)

Wednesday 5th – 14h00 – Thursday 6th June 16h30

SOFIE registration:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sofie-organic-fertilizers-summit-tickets-55703185728

SOFIE follows the IFS Technical Conference 4th June lunch – 5th June lunch

<https://fertiliser-society.org/event/2019-ifs-technical-conference.aspx>

Wednesday 5th June - 14h00 – 18h00

14h00 – 15h45 - How the organic fertiliser industry is seen from outside and inside

1. 10th: Opening. Ludwig Hermann, President ESPP and ?????, International Fertiliser Society.
2. 20th: Kristen Sukalak, ECOFI (European Consortium of the Organic-Based Fertilizer Industry). What is an organic fertiliser and what is the organic fertiliser industry today in Europe: input materials, structure of industry, types of products, applications.
3. 20th: TBC: What added value does the processor bring: blending materials and nutrients, balancing nutrients, granulation and product presentation, ensuring
4. 20th: Florence Nys, UNIFA (French organic and mineral fertilisers association). Mapping of secondary nutrient flows in France, a tool for industry and for farmers.
5. 20th: TBC - food industry perspective: motivations and concerns for supplier farmers to use organic fertilisers
6. 15th: questions and discussion

15h45- 16h15 – break

16h15 – 18h00 Do the claims for organic fertilisers stand the test of science?

7. 20th: John Williams, ADAS UK. What does agronomic science tell us about the value to farmers and to soil of organic amendments?
8. 20th: Wim van Dijk and/or Oene Oenema and/or Oscar Schouman, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands. The importance of developing organic fertilisers products and markets for the Circular Economy.
9. 20th: David Powlson, Rothamsted Research UK. Do organic fertilisers bring benefits to farmers beyond their nutrient value? Can they contribute to climate change mitigation by sequestering carbon in soil as in the “4p1000” initiative?
10. 20th: TBC: Specific benefits of organic fertilisers in Mediterranean climate and soils.
11. 25th: questions and discussion

Evening (18h00 – 20h30):

Networking dinner – walking cocktail at the conference venue

Thursday 6th June - 9h00 – 16h30

9h00 – 10h30 - Perspectives for the organic fertiliser industry

12. 15": Geert Brosens, CEO of Fertikal. Converting regional secondary resources into targeted export markets, perspectives for development.
13. 15": Becky Wheeler, Director of 4R Group UK. The role of recycling dealers in generating added value for both upstream materials sources and for user farmers.
14. 15": Hannamaija Fontell, Director, R&D and Business Development, Biolan Oy, Finland. Perspectives for organic fertiliser products and industry in Scandinavia.
15. 15": Eljas Jokinen, CEO, SoilFood Oy, Finland. Business opportunities in the circular economy: recycling nutrients, sequestering carbon and improving soil quality.
16. 15": TBC: Angibaud Derome & Spécialités, (Veolia Group). Integrating organic fertiliser added value into Veolia's objectives of resource valorisation.
17. 30": panel discussion with speakers

10h45 – 11h15 Break

11h15 – 13h00 - Regulatory challenges for the organic fertiliser industry

18. 15": Chris Thornton, ESPP. Why organic fertilisers are key to Circular Phosphorus? Why the EU Fertilisers Regulation is important? Why this conference?
19. 20": Mariano Alessio Verni, SILC Fertilizzanti. Overview of regulatory perspectives: REACH, Plant Protection and Invasive Species, Animal By-Products ...
20. 30": Johanna Bernsel, European, European Commission DG GROW. The new European Fertilisers Regulation: key points for industry, implementation status
21. 40": Questions and discussion

13h00 – 14h00 Lunch

13h30 – Opportunities for the organic fertiliser industry

22. 15" Stefaan Vandaele, Greenyard Horticulture and President Growing Media Europe. Interactions between growing media and organic fertiliser markets, products, companies.
23. 30" – five minute 'visions' from different industries: ECOFI, EuroFema, European Compost Network, European Biogas Association, Fertilizers Europe, FEAD (European Federation for Waste Management and Environmental Services)
24. Some specific aspects of the EU Fertilisers Regulation
 - 10": Member State? Legal expert? interaction with National regulations and implementation period
 - 10": ??? standards needs and development
 - 10": European Commission DG GROW: implementation and future development of the Regulation framework

14h45 – 15h15 Break

25. 1h15: Panel discussion (with speakers above + M. Alessio Verni) on regulatory opportunities and challenges and on actions to accompany industry adaptation and implementation

16h30 Closure