FERTIMANURE

Practice Abstract 2

Changes to the EU fertiliser regulation will allow for harmonization of criteria for organic materials for fertilising purposes (including BBFs) across the Member States

Short summary for practitioners

In the EU, the 2003/2003 regulation will be repealed by the 2019/1009 regulation to allow harmonisation between the Member States by having compliance criteria that set out the safety and quality specifications required for a product to be on the free market. The new regulation will also cover organic and organo-mineral fertilisers, soil improvers, inhibitors, plant biostimulants, growing media or blends that are not covered under the 2003/2003 regulation and allow them to be on the open market. The 2019/1009 regulation introduces limits for toxic contaminants such as cadmium. It is the first of its type developed within the Circular Economy Package of the European Commission. It will allow for a high level of soil protection and reduce environmental and health-related risks. The new regulation will provide manufacturers with the opportunity to modify their products to requirements to bear the CE mark and enter the open market. The alternative is that the products comply with only the national legislation and are restricted in the EU countries they can distribute the product to.

FERTIMANURE is going to produce different fertilising products from animal manure. Because the final aim of the project will be to obtain safe and quality products that can compete in the EU fertilisers market, the project will check if the developed products meet the requirements to trade fertilisers within the EU. Harmonisation of criteria is essential to this process so that BBF production and sales go through a less complicated process. This enables easier access to produce and procure organic-based fertilisers across the EU for farmers. Additionally, all the data regarding the quality and performance of FERTIMANURE BBFs shall provide relevant policy information based on scientific data.