

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

EIP-AGRI FOCUS GROUP REDUCING THE PLASTIC FOOTPRINT OF AGRICULTURE



PROGRAMME

Background

EIP-AGRI Focus Groups are temporary groups of 20 selected experts focusing on a specific subject. Each group explores practical innovative solutions to problems or opportunities in the field, and draws on experience derived from related useful projects. Each EIP-AGRI Focus Group meets twice and produces recommendations and outcomes report.

The EIP-AGRI Focus Groups also discuss and document research results, best practices and identify the implications for further research activities that will help to solve practical problems in the sector.

The first meeting of the [EIP -AGRI Focus Group on “reducing plastic footprint of agriculture”](#) is taking place in 19th and 20th May 2020..

The overarching question of the focus group is:

How to reduce the plastic footprint in agriculture through recycling and introducing alternatives?

The main question will be addressed through these specific tasks:

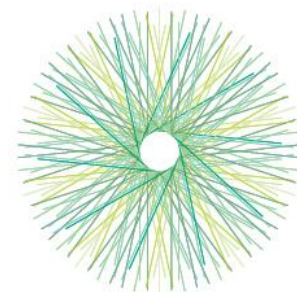
- Identify the main use and properties of plastics in farming activities, and their advantages or threats for the sustainability of agricultural production.
- Identify the indirect sources of plastic contamination such as the use of contaminated biofertilizers or waste water.
- Review existing knowledge about the impact of plastic on the agricultural environment.
- Discuss the existing practices as well as limitations for the reduction of plastic use, its recycling and its degradability in the environment.
- Explore opportunities and needs for innovations to reduce/replace the use of plastics while maintaining the economic and environmental performance of the farm.
- Explore the existing monitoring methods and suggest ideas for improvement in this area

19 – 20 May 2020

Online

Before the meeting

The first meeting will take place online using the [BigBlueButton](#) (BBB) platform. In order to get acquainted with BBB – individual tests with each expert will be conducted previously on 11th – 13th May – [see the timetable for test time here](#) and book a testing time. This will be a very short technical test to see whether your computer and broadband connection enable to use BBB without problems. We will introduce shortly the main features of the platform and in case of problems try to solve them smoothly before the meeting.



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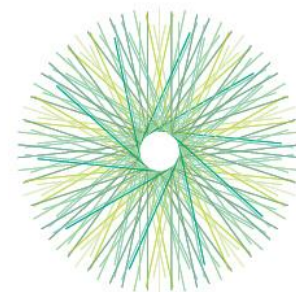
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Day 0: Monday 18 May 2020

11:00	12:30	Technical testing of BBB with all experts and the organising team <i>The technical testing should take 30 – 45 min. The extra time is dedicated to troubleshooting if needed.</i>
14:00	15:00	Getting to know the focus group (FG) workflow and the focus group experts Welcome (by Liisa Kübarsepp, EIP-Agri Service Point) Introduction and kick off on EIP, role & task of FGs (by Magdalena Mach, DG AGRI)

Day 1: Tuesday 19 May 2020

10.30	11.00	Start of the morning session – getting acquainted
11.00	12.30	Morning session of the FG : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • starting paper presentation • survey results
12.30	14.00	Lunch break offline
14.00	15.30	Afternoon session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examples from practice • discussions in virtual breakout rooms
15.30	15.45	Coffee break
15:45	16:30	Afternoon session continues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • results from breakout room discussions • introduction to minipapers – the task and teamwork • introduction to a small homework for Day 2



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Day 2: Wednesday 20 May 2020

9:00	10:45	Morning session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • programme of the day • recap from yesterday and small homework • discussions in interactive breakout rooms
10:45	11:00	Coffee break
11:00	12:00	Morning session continues
12:00	14:00	Lunch break offline
14:00	15:00	Afternoon session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plenary discussion on minipaper ideas • discussions on minipaper ideas in smaller groups
15:00	15:15	Coffee break
15:15	15:55	Afternoon session continues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • voting for minipaper topics • further steps and work in between the meetings
15:55	16:00	Closing of the first meeting