



euVrin

European Vegetable  
Research Institutes  
Network

# Fertilisation and Irrigation

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## **Working group (WG) office holders:**

- Rodney Thompson (Spain): temporary animator
- President: To be determined
- Secretary: To be determined

**Number of WG members:** 51 as of 26 May 2016

**Countries currently represented in this WG:** Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

# Fertilisation and Irrigation

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## Objectives:

- ❖ To create a forum for active researchers in fertilization and irrigation, in EU and associated countries
- ❖ To facilitate interaction, information exchange, and collaboration between researchers, regarding for example:
  - methodologies, equipment
  - fertilizer recommendation systems, irrigation scheduling
  - sensor technologies, decision support systems
- ❖ To facilitate formation of consortia for submissions for EU and other international projects
- ❖ To participate in agenda setting of future EU research programs

# Fertilisation and Irrigation

## ***Actions:***

- ❖ To invite active researchers in fertilization and irrigation of vegetable crops, in EU and associated countries
- ❖ To share list of members showing current research activities and interests
  - Through a social media program
- ❖ Encourage and facilitate exchange of information between researchers
  - Through a social media program (discussion groups, direct contact)
  - Through meetings
- ❖ Participate in preparation of strategic agenda statements to the European Commission concerning future research and innovation topics related to vegetable crop production
- ❖ Have an annual meeting



# Fertilisation and Irrigation – Information Exchange

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## ***Issues to be addressed regarding fertilisation (1):***

- ❖ **Fertiliser recommendation schemes (both mineral and organic)**
  - Data sharing, e.g. Nutrient uptake data
  - Comparison of different schemes
  - Sharing of experiences; discussion of approaches
- ❖ **Crop and soil monitoring approaches**
  - Sharing of experiences; discussion of approaches
- ❖ **Effects of fertilisers on water quality**
  - Approaches to meet relevant EU Directives
- ❖ **P fertilization**
  - Revision of interpretation of soil test results
- ❖ **Technology transfer**
  - Optimising technology transfer



# Fertilisation and Irrigation – Information Exchange

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## ***Issues to be addressed regarding fertilisation (2):***

### **❖ Analysis in laboratory and field**

- Sharing of experiences; discussion of approaches
- Experiences with quick test systems

### **❖ Implications of reduced application of manure**

- Effects on soil quality
- Reduced organic P addition

### **❖ Reducing nutrient loss in drainage**

- "End-of-pipe" solutions

### **❖ Your suggestions**

# Fertilisation and Irrigation – Information Exchange

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## ***Issues to be addressed regarding irrigation (1):***

### **❖ Effective use of sensor technologies**

- Information on performance of different sensors
- Establishment of threshold values
- Sharing information on threshold values

### **❖ Development of effective and user-friendly DSS**

- Information on modelling approaches
- Data sharing
- Sharing of experiences

### **❖ Automation of irrigation**

- Sharing of experiences, discussion of technologies

### **❖ Use of alternative or poorer quality water sources**

- Alternative water supplies - residual or grey water,
- Poorer quality water – salinity-affected
- Data sharing, methodologies



# Fertilisation and Irrigation – Information Exchange

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## *Issues to be addressed regarding irrigation (2):*

### ❖ Technology transfer

- Optimising technology transfer

### ❖ Your suggestions



# Fertilisation and Irrigation

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## *Current activities*

- ❖ **Development of social media forum for the Working Group**
  - MeWe is being trialled

# Fertilisation and Irrigation

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- Meeting date or period:
  - Annual meetings
  - First on 25-26 October 2016
  - To be held in Brussels; the exact location provided subsequently
  
- Comments:
  - This WG also includes fertilisation of organically-grown vegetable crops