The Action Programme of the Nitrates Directive in Belgium-Wallonia: Advisory role of NITRAWAL and controls at farm level

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Plan

- Context
- What is Nitrawal?
- The 2nd action programme in Wallonia
- Control at farm level
  - Soil binding rate (SB)
  - Potentially Leachable Nitrogen (PLN)
Context: Manure Nitrogen fertilizer pressure (kg N/ha)
What is Nitrawal?

Walloon Environment and Agriculture Ministers
Walloon Environment and Agriculture Administration (DGARNE)

Public financement 100%

Farmers association

Scientists

Water association

FWA
Fédération wallonne de l'Agriculture
Chaussee de Namur, 47
5038 GEMBLOUX
Tél: 081/60.00.60
www.fwa.be

Nitrawal asbl
Chaussee de Namur, 47
5030 GEMBLOUX
Tél: 081/25.20.30
www.nitrawal.be

GRENRA – GRENerA
Faculté Universitaire des Sciences Agronomiques de Gemboux
Groupe de Recherches
Environnement et Ressources azotées
Passage des Déportés, 2
5030 GEMBLOUX
Tél: 081/62.25.40
www.grenra.be

AquaWal SA
Union professionnelle des Opérateurs du Cycle de l'eau en Région wallonne
Rue Felix Wodon, 21
5000 NAMUR
Tél: 081/25.42.32
www.aquawal.be

UCL
Université Catholique de Louvain
Croix du Sud, 2 bis 24
1348 LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE
Tél: 010/47.92.86
www.uclouvain.be
GOAL: concerted actions to tackle water pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources

MISSIONS:
- advise the farmers
- communication campaigns
- scientific validation of the programme
The 2nd action programme in Wallonia

A - Measures applicable throughout Wallonia

1. Spreading periods and conditions
2. Manure storage
3. Soil Binding rate (SB)

B - Measures applicable in NVZ* only

1. Soil cover
2. Potentially Leachable Nitrogen (PLN)

*Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone = 54% of the agricultural area in Wallonia
The 2nd action programme in Wallonia

A - Measures applicable throughout Wallonia

3. Soil Binding rate (SB)

\[
SB = \frac{\text{kg org N produced}}{\text{kg org N spreadable}} \leq 1
\]
Soil Binding rate (SB)

100 % farms controlled: database (PAC + Sanitel) + software (Talisol)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% farms with SB over 1</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>13 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>12 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>4 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 2nd action programme in Wallonia

B - Measures applicable in NVZ only

1. Soil cover
2. Potentially Leachable Nitrogen (PLN)

35 reference farms
8 crops
Conclusion

- SB = systematically controlled
- PLN = control on the result (>< mean) = pedagogic
- Free advice + Heavy communication campaigns
- Stakeholders involved
Thank you for your attention