



INVITATION

Seminar and Exhibition European Parliament

28 April 2020, 17.00 – 20.30

Green biorefinery – a Green Deal for agriculture – producing sustainable soy protein alternatives and biobased products

Europe is under a dual pressure for fulfilling environmental demands and maintaining a productive agricultural sector, which can meet future demands for genuinely sustainable food supply. Further challenges are the use of fossil fuels and fossil-based products, which pose a serious threat to the climate. Likewise, the comprehensive European import of soy protein have major environmentally and climatically consequences on vulnerable areas of the world. On this backdrop and in full alignment with a Green Deal for Europe, new, innovative solutions are needed.

Research in the production and quality assessment of protein extracted from grass and clover crops has shown a disruptive potential. These crops have very positive effects on the environment and climate and are at the same time highly productive. Further research and innovation will make it possible for Europe to produce its own sustainable protein and new biobased products.

Now, SME's as well as cooperatives and larger companies are showing their interest and have initiated the first businesses. These new solutions and businesses are in accordance with the European Green Deal and the EU Protein Strategy. Furthermore, they are well placed to contribute to the EU framework including the Common Agricultural Policy and Horizon Europe Programme.

Objectives of the seminar

This seminar and its adjoining exhibition will describe the disruptive potentials of new local biorefineries to contribute to EU self-sufficiency with plant protein and new biobased products while supporting EU policies on environment and climate.

Expected participants

Decisions makers and stakeholders from industry, research and the civil society communities – including the areas of environment, agriculture, climate and food



SEMINAR

European Parliament, MEP SALON, 17:00 – 19:15

- 16:30-16:40 **Welcome** by MEPs Asger Christensen and Pernille Weiss
Moderator: Niels Halberg, Director, Danish Center for Food and Agriculture, Aarhus University
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- 16:40-16:55 **The science behind the potentials of green biorefinery**
by Uffe Jørgensen, Head of Centre for Circular Bioeconomy, Aarhus University
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- 16:55-17:30 The European potential – 3 cases:
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- Turning underutilized grassland into valuable products**
by James Gaffey, Principal Investigator, Institute of Technology, Tralee, Ireland
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- Preserving erosion prone landscapes with perennial crops for biorefinery**
by Géza Gelencsér, Rural Development NGO, Vox Vallis, Hungary
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- Biorefining of grass will contribute to a sustainable rural development in Europe**
by Johan Sanders, Grassa, The Netherlands.
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- 17:30-18:00 **Panel reactions from industry** with Vagn Hundebøll from DLG, Denmark, Paulus Kusters from Cosun Innovation Center, The Netherlands, and Jan Lund, Naturli' Foods, Denmark
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- 18:00-18:30 **Reflections from the Commission** with Silke Boger, DG AGRI, Valeria Forlin, DG CLIMA and DG RTD Tomasz Calikowski
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- 18:30-18:45 **Conclusion** by MEP Pernille Weiss

EXHIBITION OPENING

European Parliament, Mezzanine above the Yehuhi Menuhin Space 20:00-20:30

Opening of exhibition on grass proteins and samples of grass protein with key-note by Commissioner for Agriculture, Janusz Wojciechowski (TBC)

Exhibition runs from Tuesday 28 April (morning) and closes on Thursday 30 April (evening)

Registration

For logistical reasons, we kindly ask you to register if you plan to join the seminar or the opening of the exhibition. You register by email to lc@centraldenmark.eu

Questions can also be addressed to this mail.