



Introduction and programme for the stakeholder meeting on:

Promoting environmental technologies in the agricultural sector through technology verification

***- An international meeting for technology developers and suppliers/
manufacturers, farmer representatives, authorities and advisors,
test institutions and other stakeholders***

**Friday the 3rd of April, 9:30-16:20, Beatrix Theatre, Conference room: Plein Foyer
Jaarbeursplein 6a, 3521 AL Utrecht, The Netherlands**

To meet the environmental challenges within the agriculture sector new technologies are developed in the EU member states and elsewhere. They are developed for different parts of the agricultural production chain and enhance the eco-efficiency by reducing material inputs, emission of pollutants, energy consumption, recover valuable by-products and minimize waste disposal problems. These technologies are referred to as environmental technologies.

However, farmers, authorities and other central stakeholders only have limited information on the performance of these techniques which hampers their wider use on national and international level.

Therefore the Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM), the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (Danish EPA) and the German Association for Technology and Structures in Agriculture (KTBL) have initiated the project 'Verification of Environmental Technologies for Agricultural Production'.

VERA has been chosen as an acronym for the project which first of all focuses on the development of common test-protocols by independent experts that can be applied in testing and verifying the environmental performance and operational stability of different technologies. Secondly, it focuses on forming an international organisational framework to facilitate and coordinate international test and verification activities. So far the project will encompass the following types of agriculture technologies:

- Housing systems and techniques applied in housing systems
- Air cleaners
- Covers for slurry containers
- Manure separation technologies
- Manure application technologies.

Consulting different stakeholders is seen as central element in optimizing the protocols and verification activities within the VERA project. Therefore the initiators would like to invite



stakeholders to the meeting on the 3rd of April to discuss the draft versions of the test-protocols and the concept of the organisational frame in which the verification of tests are planned.

After the opening and introduction the meeting will proceed with an overall presentation of the purpose of organising international test and verification activities and a proposal for the underlying organisational frame of the test and verification scheme. The meeting will thereafter focus on the actual test-protocols, first with a presentation of the general content and structure of the test-protocols, and secondly with presentations of the specific test methods developed for each of the technology types. Following, three presentations will be given on how the verification frame will be applied in Denmark and can be applied in the Dutch and German political context.

Programme			
Registration and coffee/tea			9.30-10.00
Introduction and welcome	Dr. Kees Plug, Director Sustainable Production, VROM		10.00-10.10
The purpose of organising test and verifications activities of environmental technologies for agricultural production	Sune Imgaard Schou, Head of Division of Industry and Agriculture, Danish EPA		10.10-10.35
Proposal for an organisational context of VERA	ir. Bas Knuttel, Policy advisor Sustainable Production, VROM		10.35-10.55
Coffee/tea break			10.55-11.15
The overall structure of the test-protocols	Preben Aagaard Nielsen, Head of Project Department, Danish Standards		11.15-11.35
The test-protocol for housing systems	Dr. Nico Ogink & Dipl.-Ing. Ewald Grimm		11.35-12.00
The test-protocol for air-cleaners	-idem ditto		12.00-12.25
Lunch			12.25-13.15
The test-protocol for separation technologies	Thorkild Quist Frandsen, Environmental technology adviser, Agrotech A/S		13.15-13.40
Test-protocol for manure application technologies	Dr. Jan Huijsmans & Dipl.-Ing. agr. Helmut Döhler		13.40-14.05
Test protocol for covers for slurry containers	-idem ditto		14.05-14.30
Tea/coffee break			14.30-14.50
How will the Danish EPA apply the verification scheme in a Danish national context?	Kristian Snorre Andersen, Head of Section of Industry and Agriculture, Danish EPA		14.50-15.20
How can the verification scheme be applied in a Dutch national context?	ir. Martijn Tak, Policy advisor Sustainable Production, VROM		15.20-15.50
How can the verification scheme be applied in a German national context?	Speaker to be confirmed		15.50-16.20



In addition to the stakeholder meeting stakeholders are invited to comment in writing on the test protocols under development. Draft versions of the test protocols can be downloaded from www.ecoinnovation.dk the 20th of March and will on the same day be emailed to people and organisations that register for the stakeholder meeting. Written reactions are welcomed and can be emailed to pan@ds.dk until the 17th of April.

Please register before 23rd of March by

- Transferring € 50 to Nordea Bank, Lyngby Hovedgade 96, DK 2800 Kgs. Lyngby; SWIFT: NDEADKKK; IBAN: DK6020008300011212; Reference: 104638
- **and** subscribing by e-mail or phone to Danish Standards, Anita Raben. Phone +45 39 96 63 80; e-mail kursus@ds.dk. The e-mail should clearly indicate: a) your name and title; b) the company/organisation you represent.

The number of participants is restricted due to limited space. Participation is only guaranteed after confirmation.

The official language of the conference is English. No translation arrangements will be made.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the organizers by e-mail referring to 'stakeholdermeeting': Bas Knuttel (bas.knuttel@minvrom.nl), Kristian Snorre Andersen (krsan@mst.dk) or Ewald Grimm (e.grimm@ktbl.de)

Accommodation

Information on accommodation in Utrecht can be found at: <http://www.hotels.nl/utrecht/>

List of experts that have taken part in the development of test protocol proposals

Ewald Grimm, KTBL - German Association for Technology and Structures in Agriculture.
Helmut Döhler, KTBL - German Association for Technology and Structures in Agriculture.
Brigitte Eurich-Menden, KTBL - German Association for Technology and Structures in Agriculture.
Eva Gallmann, Institute for Agricultural Engineering, Livestock Systems Engineering, University of Hohenheim, Germany.

Nico Ogink, WUR/ASG Wageningen University and Research Centre/
Animal Sciences Group, The Netherlands.

Maikel Timmerman, WUR/ASG Wageningen University and Researchcentre/
Animal Sciences Group, The Netherlands.

Jan Huijsmans, WUR/PRI Wageningen University and Researchcentre/Plant Research International,
The Netherlands.

Peter Kai, AgroTech, Denmark.

Merete Lyngbye, Danish Pig Production, Denmark.

Hanne Damgaard Poulsen, Aarhus University, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Department of
Agricultural Engineering, Denmark.

Thorkild Q. Frandsen, AgroTech, Denmark.

Anders Peter Adamsen, Aarhus University, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Department of
Agricultural Engineering, Denmark.

Martin Nørregaard Hansen, AgroTech, Denmark.