



Joint DG ENV & TFRN workshop: Towards joined-up nitrogen guidance for air, water and climate co-benefits. Brussels, October 11th and 12th, 2016

Purpose of the workshop

The European Commission (DG Environment) and the UNECE Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (TFRN) recognize that nitrogen is leading to many benefits and threats across the environment and that a joined-up perspective across the nitrogen cycle should offer many co-benefits.

Current guidance documentation is typically separated according to environmental issue and nitrogen form. Taking a focus on European agricultural practices as a starting point, this workshop will focus on bringing together existing guidance to reduce the adverse effects of nitrogen use, while maximizing its benefits for food and energy supply.

The workshop will allow the discussion of background documents addressing different parts of the agricultural system, the preparation of working group reports on the opportunities for synergy and avoidance of trade-offs, and the preparation of an outline for a future “EC / UNECE Guidance Document on Joined-up Nitrogen Management in Agriculture”.

Tuesday 11th October

9.00 Opening of workshop

Session 1: Setting the scene

- Welcome and introduction from DG Environment (DG Environment)
- Role of TFRN and the provision of UNECE nitrogen guidance (Mark Sutton)
- The work of the EU Nitrogen Expert Panel (Oene Oenema)
- Farmer’s perspective on the need for joined up nitrogen guidance (TBC)
- Discussion

Session 2: Presentation of Background Documents

Theme 1: Principles of overall N management

- Overview and introduction (Oene Oenema)
- Discussion in plenary

10.30-11.00 Coffee

Theme 2: Housed livestock, manure storage, manure processing

- Overview and introduction (Barbara Amon)
- Discussion in plenary

Theme 3: Field application of organic and inorganic fertilizers

- Overview and introduction (Tom Misselbrook)
- Discussion in plenary

Theme 4: Land use and landscape management

- Overview and introduction (Tommy Dalgaard)
- Discussion in plenary

13.00-14.00 Lunch

Session 3: Working group discussions (*coffee 15.00-15.30*)

Parallel discussions, one per theme.

17.00 Close of Day 1

20.00 Group dinner (TBC)

Wednesday 12th October

Session 4: Working group discussions

Continuation of the parallel discussions, one per theme.

11.00-11.30 Coffee

Session 5: Feedback and wrap-up

- Theme 1: Principles of overall N management
- Theme 2: Housed livestock, manure storage, manure processing
- Theme 3: Field application of organic and inorganic fertilizers

- Theme 4: Land use and landscape management
- Plenary discussion and wrap-up

13.00 Close of workshop
