



Open Field Day on 10 April 2017: Practical climate protection at Biolandhof Kreppold

Johannes Kreppold is a farmer at Bioland-farm Kreppold. It is particularly important for him to constantly develop his farm and its management. That is also why he is involved in the European collaborative project SOLMACC. The 50 participants of the field day were able to learn about what is happening in the project at Bioland-farm Kreppold. Lectures on climate modeling and composting methods were held and Johannes Kreppold, together with an advisor, explained the innovative composting method on the farm.

"Climate change is already causing problems today. Farmers must develop strategies to adapt to climate change. Humus build-up is essential for the water-bearing capacity of soils and is therefore important for reacting to severe rain or drought", says Johannes Kreppold. In the course of the project, he has, among other things, introduced a new composting process.



Picture 1 - Kreppold Field Day ©S. Gries

The process of microbial carbonization developed by Walter Witte seemed to the farmer unconventional but comprehensible. Therefore, he started composting cattle fever and green cut. The organic substance is to be converted predominantly anaerobically and complex humic substances are to be built up. According to Witte, between 60 and 80 percent of the starting components are lignin-containing organic substances with high carbon contents, such as straw or wood chips, while the remainder is composed of protein-containing substances such as manure and urine from various animal species. The manure of the cows contain N, P and K and other nutrients, the straw mainly potassium and carbon.

On the other hand, farmer Kreppold does not move the compost in principle to prevent aerobic processes inside the rent. Furthermore, the rents are not covered because the microbial photosynthesis processes on the surface are regarded as eminent. A water content of 35 to 50% is also important. This is because the water displaces the air and is also necessary for the biochemical processes inside the rent.



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Compared to conventional compost, one of the few studies on the subject of microbial carbonation describes significantly higher carbon contents by up to 26% by weight in MC-Compost. If in the future the results can be reproduced on plants such the ones from the Kreppold, they are relevant for a farm's climate impact.



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