Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL Europe
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The European inputs evaluation:

A successful collaboration of the organic sector and the industry to ensure quality, transparency and to prevent scandals.

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Annual Biocontrol Industry Meeting 2019

FiBL – Research Institute and knowledge centre – Organic and Sustainable Agriculture

1 FiBL Europe

2 FiBL Switzerland

3 FiBL Germany

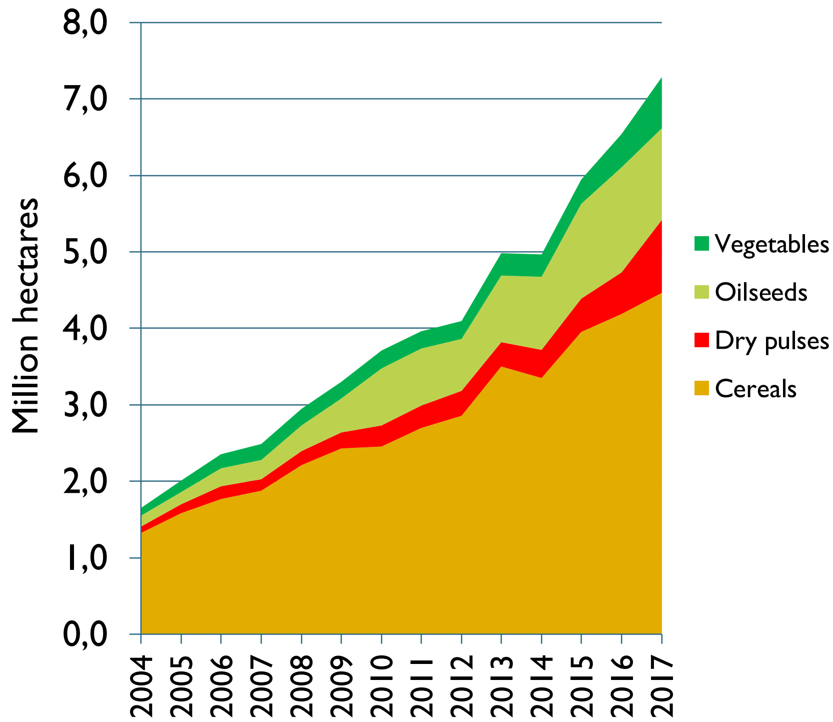
4 FiBL Austria

5 FiBL Team France

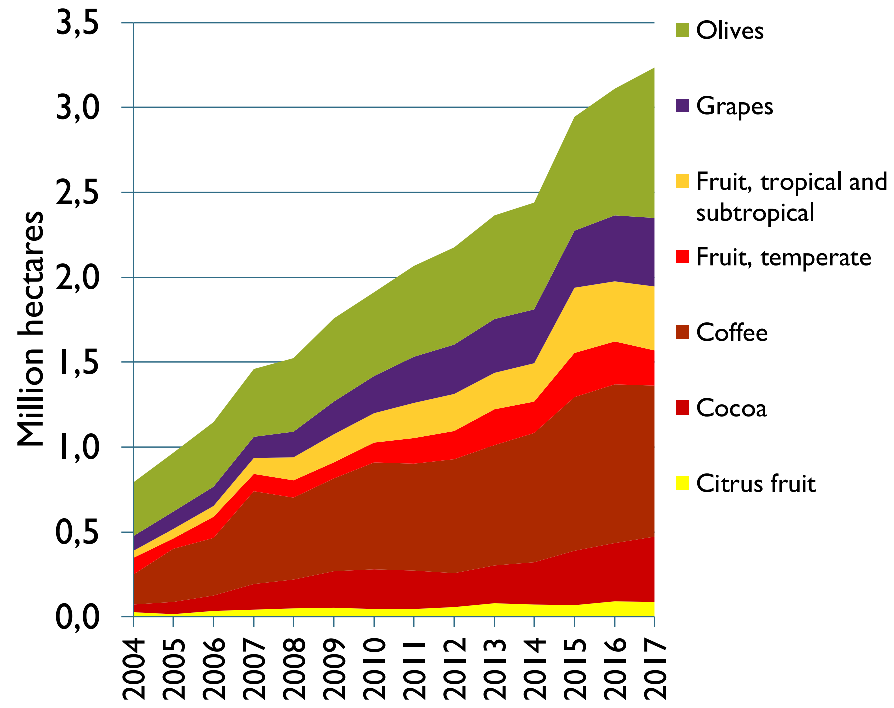
6 FiBL Central Eastern/CEE (ÖMKi Hungary)

Development of organic arable and permanent crops

Development of organic arable crop groups 2004-2017
Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOEL survey 2006-2019



Development of organic permanent crops/crop groups 2004-2017
Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOEL survey 2006-2019



WORLD: ORGANIC RETAIL SALES 2017

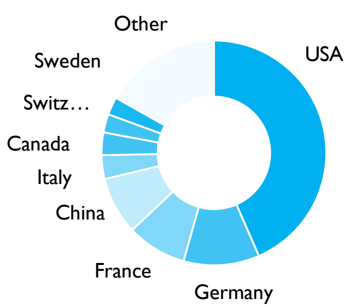
World
approx.
92 billion €

North America
almost
43 billion €

288€
are spent per
person in
Switzerland

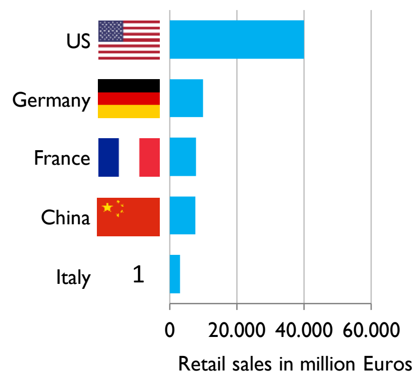
13.3%
of the
food market
in Denmark is
organic

The largest single market is the USA followed by the EU (34.3 billion €) and China. By region, North America has the lead (43 billion €), followed by Europe (37.3 billion €) and Asia.



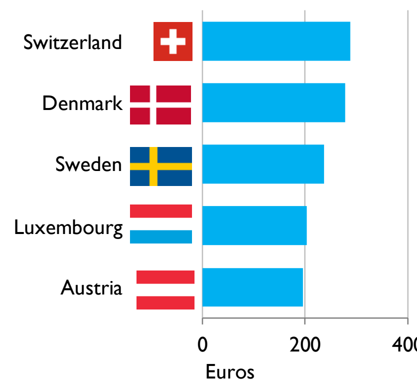
Distribution of retail sales value by country 2017

The countries with the largest market for organic food are the United States (40 billion €), followed by Germany (10 billion €), France (7.9 billion €) and China (7.6 billion €).



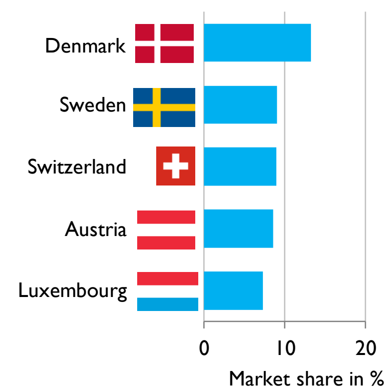
The five countries with the largest markets for organic food 2017

Switzerland has the highest per capita consumption worldwide, followed by Denmark and Sweden.



The five countries with the highest per capita consumption 2017

The highest shares the organic market of the total market is in Denmark, followed by Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, and Luxembourg.



The five countries with the highest organic shares of the total market 2017

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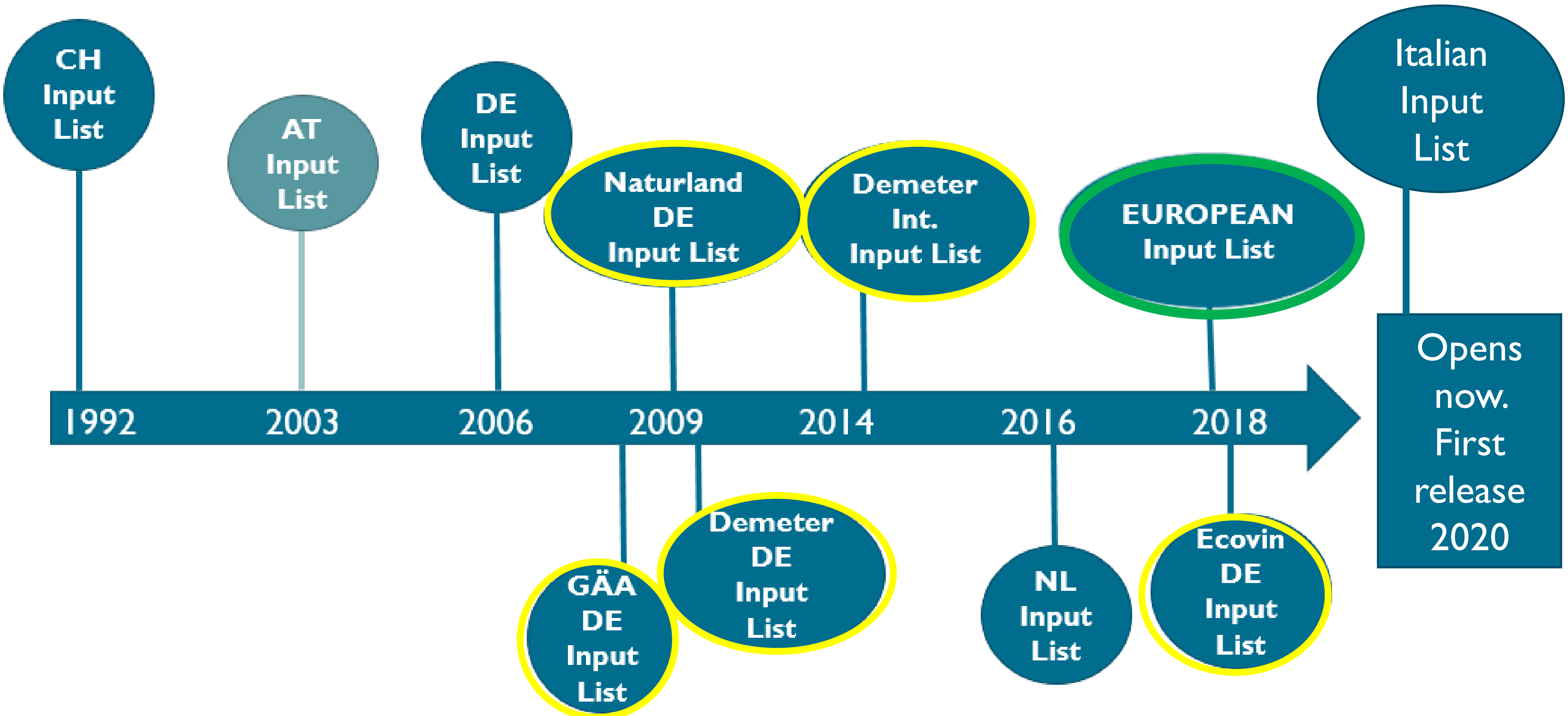
Source: Helga Willer et al, 2919. FiBL survey 2019
www.organic-world.net – statistics.fibl.org

Inputs in organic production

- INPUTS used in organic farming include: Plant protection products, beneficial insects, fertilizers, compost, soils technical materials, feed and feed additives, plant strengtheners, parasite control agents, etc.
- Organic legislation sets clear rules for materials to be used
- Challenge: for users to find out whether commercial inputs (mostly complex mixtures) contain authorized materials only → Risk for farmer and organic sector as a whole
- No mandatory inspection or certification for inputs for the organic production in Europe in place
- Obvious need for Quality Control within the sector

FiBL Input Lists: a successful approach to Input evaluation



Legal background

- Regulation for organic farming
- Specific regulation for various types of inputs, e.g.
  - Fertilizers
  - Plant protection products
  - Disinfectants

- Regulation at EU and/or national level

nat. legislation	nat. legislation	nat. legislation
EU legislation		

Major building blocks for evaluation

Private label requirements	Private label A	Private label B	Private label C
National requirements	National laws		
Basic requirements	European Input List criteria		
	EU-legislation		

Who is behind the European Input Lists

Core team of the European Input List: FiBL Europe, FiBL Switzerland, FiBL Germany, Infoxgen Austria + national partners

- Specialized core team of currently 17 evaluators for the different types of inputs and national legislations for 6 input categories
- Strong cooperation & regular exchange about legal developments, requirements and activities
- National hubs with specialists to provide local knowledge and networks to farmers associations, authorities and industry.

Admission criteria, part 1: European criteria

Basic European admission criteria

- Developed by the European core team
- Uniform for all lists in the consortium
- Compliance with the EU organic legislation
- Compliance with the requirements of the European Input List
- Full composition of the product (including co-formulants which are not shown on the product label)

nat. input list	nat. input list	nat. input list

European Input List

Admission criteria, part 2: national criteria

Supplemental national admission criteria

- Developed by national evaluation teams, in collaboration with national stakeholders
- Take into account national peculiarities
- Compliance with national legislation
- Inclusion in national registers, where applicable
- Compliance with supplemental requirements of the national organic sector

nat. input list	nat. input list	nat. input list

European Input List

Admission criteria: example fertilizers / Italy (1)

Partners in Italy: Federbio plus local hub of FiBL

Basic European admission criteria

- Materials must be listed in Annex I of Reg. EU 889/2008.
- Specific interpretations and implementation rules for certain components (vary from one component to the other; e.g manure, trace elements, complexing agents…)
- Co-formulants: specific requirements of the European Input List
  - synthetic substances only where necessary
  - limited to the smallest possible amounts
  - no harmful effects on users or environment

Admission criteria: example fertilizers / Italy (2)

Supplemental Italian admission criteria

- Product composition complies with legal requirements (DL 75/10)
- Product label complies with legal requirements (DL 75/10)
- Product must be included in the SIAN fertiliser register
- Optional: Limitation of copper content, to prevent abusive use as a fungicide (supplemental requirement by FederBio)

Characteristics of the European Input Lists

- Thorough document review; harmonized criteria at European level
- Confidentiality of information is guaranteed towards the input manufacturer
- Quality assurance by selective spot-checking (chemical analyses)
- Competent experts
- International collaboration: exchange of experience and mutual alert in case of irregularities

National Input Lists from a farmer's and retailer's point of view

- Convenient access to list of approved inputs
- All listed products have been thoroughly evaluated and were found to be compliant with organic production rules
- Excellent scandal prevention for the sector
- Farmer may create a declaration of conformity

European and national Input Lists from a company's point of view

- The admission criteria are transparent and the data requirements are clearly specified.
- No redundancy with e.g. PPP registration
- Lean procedure, timelines are respected if provided information is complete
- Clear distinction of high quality products from grey zone market
- Company may create a declaration of conformity
- Streamlined process to reduce costs for preparation of information package (applicant), evaluation (european inputs list team and national partners) and quality control.

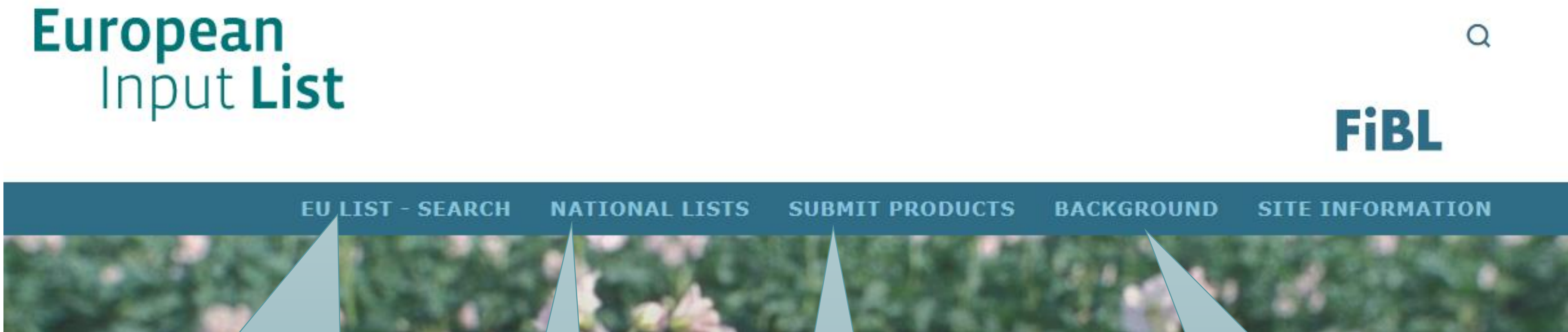
- https://italy.inputs.eu/it.html

Italian Inputs List (Italy.inputs.eu): timelines

Website online, product submission open	October 2019
Product evaluation	October – November 2019
Consultation of Advisory Board	December 2019
Publication of the list	January 2020

https://italy.inputs.eu/it.html

The European Input List website https://www.inputs.eu/



Online product search

Info on national lists
+
Comprehensive archive of national lists

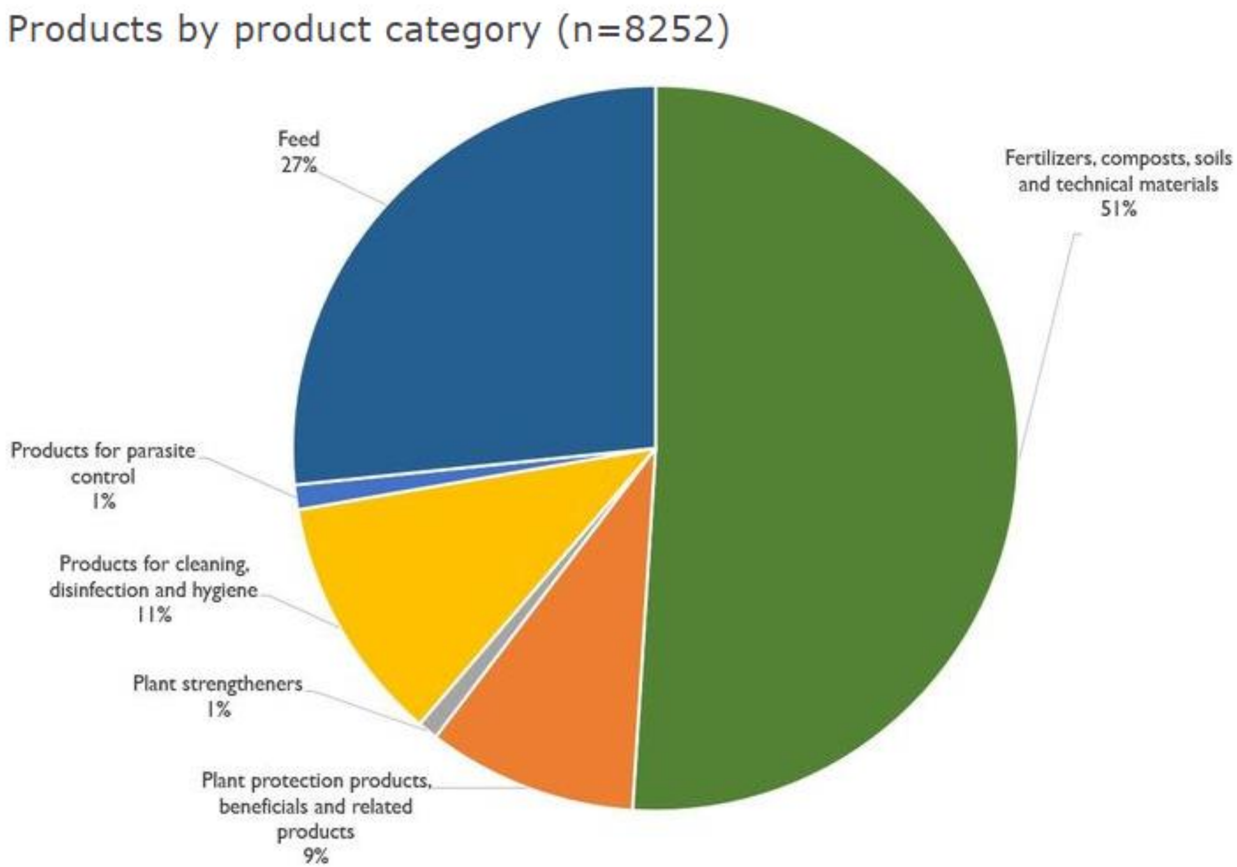
Info for companies

Background information

www.inputs.eu

Products and product categories

Contains >8000 products; covers 6 categories



https://www.inputs.eu/

Online search: basic search https://www.inputs.eu/

European
Input **List**

EU LIST - SEARCH NATIONAL LISTS SUBMIT PRODUCTS

European Input List for Organic Production >> EU List - Search

European Input List - Search

enter product, company or category | find | go to advanced search

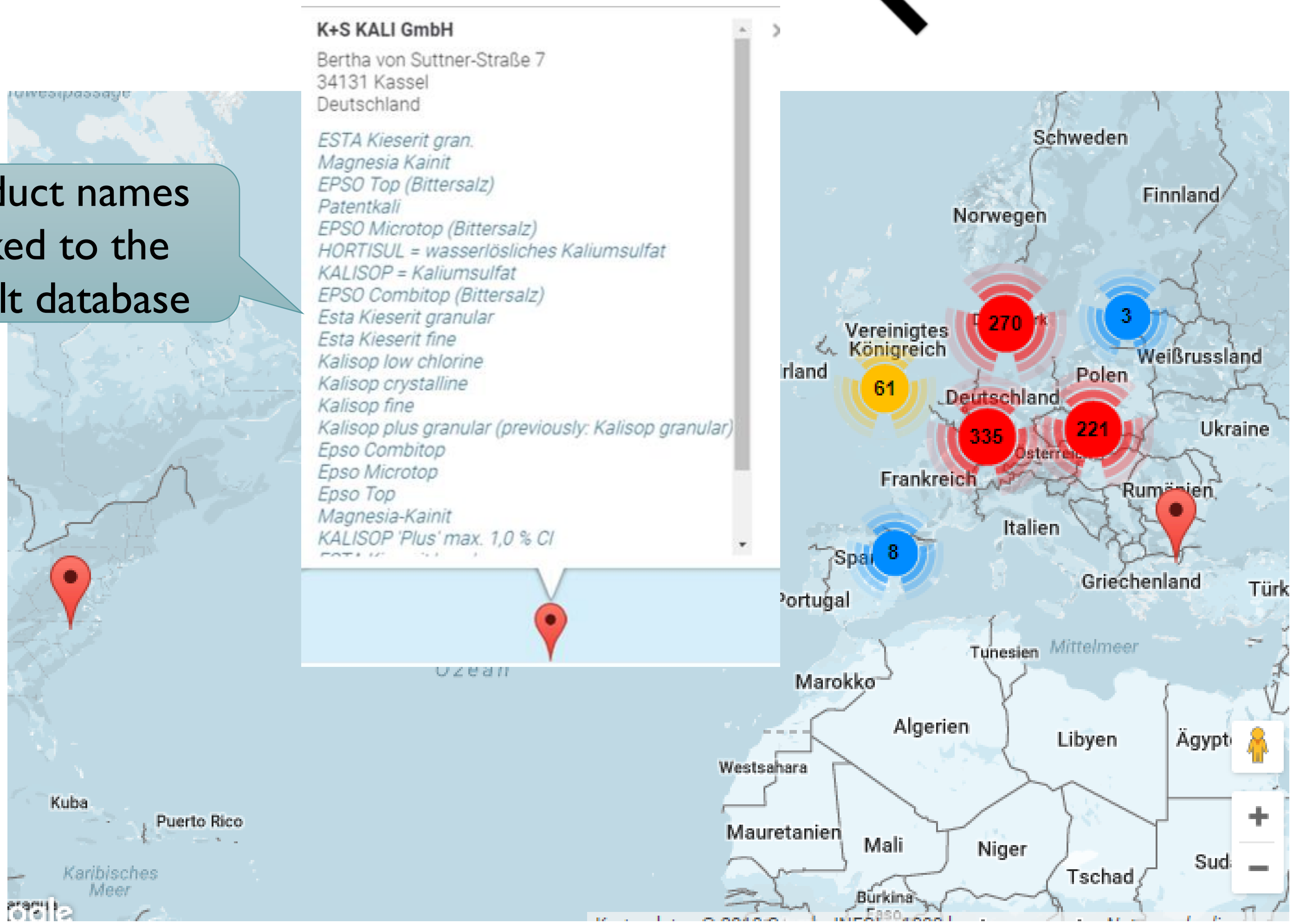
Search by

a. Product name
b. Company name
c. Category denomination

Search according to extended parameters

Company mapping

Product names linked to the result database



What‘s the agenda of FiBL?

- Availability of high quality inputs is essential for the organic sector, especially in view of upscaling of OF and other sustainable farming systems
- Novel, sound tools and technologies should be available to farmers as early as possible
- National specifities and differences between perception of farmers and consumers are part of Europe and must be respected
- Unnecessary barriers to introduction of save inputs should be removed at all levels
- Our close collaboration with the organic sector and industry enables us and partners in the sector to support a qualified and constructive dialogue with authorities.
- Further countries will join the network.

Contact

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