



Title of the workshop: cooperating for a better soil fertility

Short description of the workshop for the programme:



Agroecology aims to recycle optimally biomass in the agroecosystem. To guaranty the optimal soil conditions is an important principle. In this workshop there is a visit to the fields of the agroecological farmers Tom Troonbeeckx en Brecht Goussey. We will make a soil profile and investigate how the soil fertility is. The farmers will explain from their point of view how they do this and the scientist will explain from her point of view how she sees this improvement of soil fertility.

It is not always possible to close the cycle on one farm, but it can be possible between a cooperation of farms. Farmers Tom and Brecht cultivate vegetables and use manure of stock farmer Kurt Sannen. This cooperation has to cope with some challenges: Logistical, juridical,...the farmers explain and discuss with a scientist.

Organisation and person in charge of the workshop:

Bioforum, Esmeralda Borgo

Objective of the workshop:

What are the challenges for improving soil quality? How do farmers cope with these? How to close nutrient (and other) cycles on level of landscape? What are the challenges and how to cope with them?

Discussion between farmers and scientists.

Methodology:

The workshop includes a field visit. Some farmers and scientists give an explanation but the idea is to create enough space for discussion.

People that give input and expenses involved:

Name	Organisation/function
Karen Vancampenhout	KULeuven
Tom Troonbeeckx	Biolandbouwer
Brecht Goussey	Biolandbouwer
Kurt Sannen	Biolandbouwer
Bert Reubens	ILVO

Moderator of the workshop

Esmeralda Borgo