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The [FAO's World Soil Day is held every year on 5 December](#) [1]. It aims to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources.

Did you know the EIP-AGRI has done a lot of work on this topic? Browse the summary below.

## EIP-AGRI Focus Groups

*EIP-AGRI Focus Groups are temporary groups of selected experts focusing on a specific subject, sharing knowledge and experience. Several of them have worked on soil-related issues, click on each link below to find reports, factsheets and more:*

- [Fertiliser efficiency - Focus on horticulture in open field](#) [2]
- [Grazing for Carbon](#) [3]
- [IPM practices for soil-borne diseases suppression in vegetables and arable crops](#) [4]
- [Moving from source to sink in arable farming](#) [5]
- [Nutrient recycling](#) [6]
- [Profitability of permanent grassland](#) [7]
- [Protecting agricultural soils from contamination](#) [8]
- [Soil organic matter content in Mediterranean regions](#) [9]
- [Soil salinisation](#) [10]
- [Water & agriculture: adaptive strategies at farm level](#) [11]

## EIP-AGRI events

*The EIP-AGRI holds workshops and seminars on specific topics. Click on each link to find reports, presentations and more from events related to soil:*

- [EIP-AGRI workshop 'Organic is Operational'](#) [12]
- [EIP-AGRI Workshop: Connecting innovative projects: Water & Agriculture](#) [13]
- [EIP-AGRI Workshop Cropping for the future: networking for crop rotation and crop diversification](#) [14]
- [Agri-Innovation summit 2019](#) [15]
- [EIP-AGRI Workshop "Small is smart" - Innovative solutions for small agricultural and forestry holdings](#) [16]

## EIP-AGRI publications

*As well from the Focus Group reports, the EIP-AGRI Service Point has produced the following relevant publications:*

- [EIP-AGRI Brochure Sustainable livestock farming](#) [17]
- [EIP-AGRI Brochure Organic is operational](#) [18]
- [EIP-AGRI Brochure Water and Agriculture](#) [19]
- [EIP-AGRI Brochure Soil organic matter matters](#) [20]
- [EIP-AGRI Brochure IPM for Brassica](#) [21]
- [Agrinnovation magazine - Issue n° 6 - June 2019](#) [22] (and [previous magazines](#) [23])

## EIP-AGRI Videos

Watch these videos on examples of soil-related initiatives from the EIP-AGRI network:

- [AGRI challenge: soil fertility through carbon storage](#) [24]
- [AGRI challenge: crop diversification in grassland](#) [25]
- [AGRI challenge: soil salinisation](#) [26]
- [Agroecology clip](#) [27]

## Inspirational ideas from the network

Articles on examples of soil-related initiatives from the EIP-AGRI network:

- [Looking after the soil to bring life and carbon back \(Austria\)](#) [28]
- [Preserving soil organic matter and protecting water sources \(Czech Republic\)](#) [29]
- [Agroecology for sustainable soils \(France\)](#) [30]
- [A kit to improve soil biological activity \(France\)](#) [31]
- [Cutting atmospheric carbon: a central role for soils \(France\)](#) [32]
- [From great soil comes great food - a farmers' story \(France\)](#) [33]
- [Agroforestry- a win-win for nature and the farmer \(Germany\)](#) [34]
- [Agro-industrial waste put to good use as biofertiliser \(Italy\)](#) [35]
- [Biofertilisers to improve soil fertility \(Italy\)](#) [36]
- [Nutrient spill overs for valuable fertiliser \(Italy\)](#) [37]
- [Fertile Circularity \(Netherlands\)](#) [38]
- [Crop diversification - multiple benefits for dairy farm \(Netherlands\)](#) [39]
- [Precision farming- the right technology and sharing knowledge are key \(Netherlands\)](#) [40]
- [Protecting soil organic carbon in Poland \(Poland\)](#) [41]
- [A passion for permanent pasture \(Portugal\)](#) [42]
- [A nature-based approach for Mediterranean ecosystems \(Portugal\)](#) [43]
- [Finding new in the old, reviving former links between forest and agricultural land \(Spain\)](#) [44]
- [Grazing management with a heart for soil health \(UK\)](#) [45]

## Horizon 2020 projects

- **iSQAPER** - Interactive Soil Quality Assessment in Europe and China for Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Resilience: [website](#) [46] - [CORDIS](#) [47]
- **LANDMARK** - LAND Management: Assessment, Research, Knowledge base: [website](#) [48] - [CORDIS](#) [49]
- **SOILCARE** - Soil Care for profitable and sustainable crop production in Europe: [website](#) [50] - [CORDIS](#) [51]
- **Diverfarming** - Crop diversification and low-input farming across Europe: from practitioners engagement and ecosystems services to increased revenues and chain organisation: [website](#) [52] - [CORDIS](#) [53]
- **DiverIMPACTS** - Diversification through Rotation, Intercropping, Multiple cropping, Promoted with Actors and value-Chains Towards Sustainability: [website](#) [54] - [CORDIS](#) [55]
- **FAirWAY** - Farm systems that produce good Water quality for drinking water supplies: [website](#) [56] - [CORDIS](#) [57]
- **WATERPROTECT** - Innovative tools enabling drinking WATER PROTECTION in rural and urban environments: [website](#) [58] - [CORDIS](#) [59]
- **BEST4SOILS** - Boosting 4 BEST practices for SOIL health in Europe: [CORDIS](#) [60] (Thematic

network)

- **EXCALIBUR** - Exploiting the multifunctional potential of belowground biodiversity in horticultural farming: [website](#) [61] - [CORDIS](#) [62]
- **SoildiverAgro** - Soil biodiversity enhancement in European agroecosystems to promote their stability and resilience by external inputs reduction and crop performance increase: [CORDIS](#) [63]

More relevant multi-actor projects and thematic networks [here](#) [64].

## Other

- [European Commissions's Horizon Europe soil mission](#) [65]
- DG AGRI's AgriResearch factsheet on [Soils](#) [66] which includes a number of **funding opportunities**
- [EIP-AGRI Newsletter November 2019 which focuses on soils](#) [67]
- [Soil search on the EIP-AGRI database of Operational Groups](#) [68]

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**Source URL:** <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/safeguarding-our-soils>

## Links

- [1] <http://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/en/>
- [2] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/fertiliser-efficiency-focus-horticulture-open>
- [3] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/grazing-carbon>
- [4] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/ipm-practices-soil-borne-diseases-suppression>
- [5] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/moving-source-sink-arable-farming>
- [6] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/nutrient-recycling>
- [7] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/profitability-permanent-grassland>
- [8] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/protecting-agricultural-soils-contamination>
- [9] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/soil-organic-matter-content-mediterranean-regions>
- [10] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/soil-salinisation>
- [11] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/water-agriculture-adaptive-strategies-farm-level>
- [12] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-workshop-organic-operational>
- [13] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-workshop-connecting-innovative-projects>
- [14] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-workshop-cropping-future-networking-crop>
- [15] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/agri-innovation-summit-2019>
- [16] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-workshop-small-smart-innovative-solutions>
- [17] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-sustainable-livestock-farming>
- [18] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-organic-operational>
- [19] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-water-and-agriculture>
- [20] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-soil-organic-matter-matters>
- [21] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/eip-agri-brochure-ipm-brassica>
- [22] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications/agriinnovation-magazine-issue-n%C2%B0-6-june-2019>
- [23] [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications?f%5B0%5D=field\\_publication\\_type%3A50](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/publications?f%5B0%5D=field_publication_type%3A50)
- [24] <https://youtu.be/6LtYCM1nZPA>
- [25] <https://youtu.be/8G6BIUFhoTs>
- [26] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGqj63dODSc>
- [27] [https://twitter.com/EIPAGRI\\_SP/status/1204310131695067136](https://twitter.com/EIPAGRI_SP/status/1204310131695067136)
- [28] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-looking-after-soil-bring-life>
- [29] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-preserving-soil-organic-matter-and-protecting-water-sources>
- [30] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-agroecology-sustainable-soils>
- [31] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-kit-improve-soil-biological>
- [32] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/cutting-atmospheric-carbon-central-role-soils>
- [33] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-great-soil-comes-great-food-%E2%80%93-farmers%E2%80%99-story>

[34] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news-events/press-media/press-release/agroforestry-win-win-nature-and-farmer>

[35] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-agro-industrial-waste-put-good>

[36] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-idea-biofertilisers-improve-soil>

[37] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-nutrient-spill-overs-valuable-fertiliser>

[38] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-fertile-circularity>

[39] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-crop-diversification-multiple>

[40] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-precision-farming-right-technology-and-sharing-knowledge-are-key>

[41] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/node/5174>

[42] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-passion-permanent-pasture>

[43] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-nature-based-approach>

[44] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-idea-finding-new-old-reviving-former-links-between-forest-and-agricultural-land>

[45] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/inspirational-ideas-grazing-management-heart-soil>

[46] <http://www.isqaper-project.eu/>

[47] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193347\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193347_en.html)

[48] <http://www.landmark2020.eu/>

[49] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193323\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/193323_en.html)

[50] <http://www.soilcare-project.eu/>

[51] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/200533\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/200533_en.html)

[52] <http://www.diverfarming.eu/>

[53] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210508\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210508_en.html)

[54] <http://www.diverimpacts.net/>

[55] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210493\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210493_en.html)

[56] <https://www.fairway-project.eu/>

[57] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210505\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210505_en.html)

[58] <https://water-protect.eu/>

[59] [http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210492\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210492_en.html)

[60] [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/218225\\_en.html](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/218225_en.html)

[61] <https://www.excaliburproject.eu>

[62] <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/223219/factsheet/en>

[63] <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/223217/factsheet/en>

[64] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/about/multi-actor-projects-scientists-and-farmers>

[65] <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/soils-matter>

[66] [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/factsheet-agri-soils\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/factsheet-agri-soils_en.pdf)

[67] [https://mailchi.mp/eip-agri/newsletter-on-agriculture-innovation-edition-75-nov-en-1104509?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/eip-agri/newsletter-on-agriculture-innovation-edition-75-nov-en-1104509?e=[UNIQID])

[68] [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects?search\\_api\\_views\\_fulltext\\_op=OR&search\\_api\\_views\\_fulltext=&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1368&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1377&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1129&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1357&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=3491&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1518&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1520&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1523&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1526&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=1532&field\\_core\\_keywords%5B%5D=358&field\\_proj\\_funding\\_source\\_list=0](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects?search_api_views_fulltext_op=OR&search_api_views_fulltext=&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1368&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1377&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1129&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1357&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=3491&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1518&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1520&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1523&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1526&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=1532&field_core_keywords%5B%5D=358&field_proj_funding_source_list=0)