



Using oil shale ash in organic farming

COUNTRY

Estonia

PROJECT PROMOTER

NGO Crop Cluster

FUNDING

National funds, EUR 800 000

DURATION

2018 – on-going

CONTRIBUTION TO

- generating environmental benefits
- increasing efficiency of biomass resource use

KEYWORDS

Adding value, agriculture, bio-based waste, residues, by-products, fertilisers, cooperation, transnational

CONTACT

roosi.soosaar@gmail.com

WEBSITE

www.mullakaitse.ee

The initiative

Every year, Estonia produces 800 000 tons of oil shale ash that is suitable for use in agriculture as a fertiliser, but which is not yet allowed in organic farming. Currently, only half is used in agriculture and the rest is disposed of. This initiative was set up to increase oil shale ash usage in crop production.

Research institutions, universities and a leading Finnish organic fertiliser manufacturer decided to work together with farmers to create and test granules of oil shale ash with added nutrients. Once testing is complete, the end product will offer farmers in Estonia and neighbouring regions a reasonably-priced fertiliser that has the ability to neutralise the soil.

The cluster of engaged partners includes the Estonian University of Life Sciences, the University of Helsinki, the University of Tartu, the National Institute Of Chemical Physics And Biophysics, the Estonian Crop Research Institute, Ecolan OY and Eesti Energia AS.

RESULTS

- ✓ Increase the reuse of oil shale ash.
- ✓ Farmers will have access to a reasonably-priced fertiliser that has a neutralising effect on soil.
- ✓ 1 individual directly employed in/by the initiative and 20 indirectly through spin-offs of the initiative (e.g. suppliers, transport).

