

# Providing guidance to European public policies on fertilisation



Improving the absorption and reducing the loss of nutrients is a major challenge for agriculture. The originality of the Horizon Europe NutriBudget\* project is that it considers the problem from the plot level to the territory and the basin level. Within this framework, ARVALIS is characterising the performance of different practices, with multi-criteria evaluations.

Sowing cover crops, localising fertilisers, using methanation digestates from urban waste or other organic fertilisers from the circular economy... starting this autumn, ARVALIS will be scrutinising both regulated practices and innovative practices in terms of synthetic fertilisers. The aim is not only to quantify the changes in the carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and other element cycles, but also to assess their impact on economic and environmental performance using a multi-criteria analysis.

This work involves identifying regulatory measures, developing performance indicators, particularly at the territorial level, and inserting them into multi-criteria evaluation tools, including Systemes, which is supported by ARVALIS.

Ultimately, this will make it possible to create a catalogue of measures for mitigating losses and improving nutrient efficiency at several scales. This is the first stage of the Nutribudget project, which aims to inform public policies on how to systemically optimise nutrient flows and balances in Europe. Further steps in the project, involving modelling, will lead to roadmaps in each region by 2026.

\* Nutribudget is the acronym for Optimisation of nutrient budget in agriculture