

SPIN-FERT Newsletter N°1

Amplifying the SPIN-FERT Voice: Communication, Dissemination and Outreach Activities
June-December 2024



Welcome to SPIN-FERT's Latest News!

SPIN-FERT, funded under Horizon Europe, is paving the way for sustainable horticulture and enhanced soil health through innovative technologies and sustainable practices. This project transforms agricultural by-products into high-quality fertilizers and peat-free substrates, fostering a greener, eco-friendly approach to soil management.

Project Highlights

Innovation in Soil Health: SPIN-FERT focuses on biostimulants, agro-industrial waste utilization, and precision tools for soil analysis, including AI-supported soil assessment and lab-on-chip devices. These advancements help improve soil fertility and reduce chemical dependency in agriculture.

Collaborative Expertise: With 20 partners across Europe, SPIN-FERT promotes knowledge sharing and policy development to integrate sustainable practices into horticulture, benefiting communities and fostering ecological stewardship.

SPIN-FERT EVENTS



- Science Events
- Educational Events
- Community Events
- EU, National & Global Events

Regensburg, Germany	8.12.24	Online	5.12.24
RCAL Winter Symposium		World Soil Day 2024 (WSD)	
At the RCAL Winter Symposium held on 8 December 2024 in Regensburg, the project was presented by representatives of OTH. The presentation introduced SPIN-FERT's objectives and activities to an academic audience engaged in research on circular and applied innovations.		On 5 December 2024, SPIN-FERT partners E. Malus (InHort), M.G. Tommasini (RINOVA), G. Ferrucci (ENOMONDO), and L. Canfora (CREA) participated in the online World Soil Day conference. The speakers highlighted SPIN-FERT's contribution to soil health within the broader international discourse on sustainable soil management.	
Ożarów Mazowiecki, Poland	28.11.24	Poznań, Poland	26.11.24
Conference on Raspberry Cultivation in Soilless Media and Soil		Earth & Wetlands / Peat in Lab	
During the conference on raspberry cultivation in soilless media and soil held on 28 November 2024 in Ożarów Mazowiecki, M. Tartanus (InHort) promoted the SPIN-FERT project, with a focus on innovative growing substrates and sustainable production practices.		On 26 November 2024, art students from the Studio for Transdisciplinary Projects and Research led by Prof. Joanna Hoffmann (FASSF/ASN) participated in a multidisciplinary exploration of earth sciences. The program included a visit to the Museum of Earth and a hands-on workshop on peat core analysis, connecting scientific methods with artistic inquiry.	
Alessandria, Italy	21.11.24	Brussels, Belgium	13-14.11.24
Giornata Nazionale dell'Albero		European Mission Soil Week 2024	
On 21 November 2024, CREA and ENOMONDO delivered a presentation and workshop focused on Memory Nexus and sensory analysis at the conference <i>Roots for Growing: Trees - Woods - Landscape and the Hidden Part of Plants</i> . The event was organised by the Academy of Agriculture of Turin in Alessandria and addressed the role of trees and soils in sustainable landscapes.		E. Malus (InHort) attended the European Mission Soil Week 2024, contributing to discussions on soil health, innovation, and policy frameworks aligned with the EU Mission "A Soil Deal for Europe."	
Warsaw, Poland	8.11.24	Valencia, Spain	29.10.24
Meeting of the Polish Wetlands Committee		AGRO DAY 2024 - Technical University of Valencia	
At the meeting of the Polish Wetlands Committee held on 8 November 2024 in Warsaw, SPIN-FERT representatives Dr Ewa Furmańczyk and Dr Jadwiga Treder (InHort) presented the project's assumptions, objectives, and methodology. The meeting focused on the study, protection, and governance of wetland ecosystems.		During AGRO DAY 2024, Prof. Magdalena Frać delivered an invited lecture titled "Microorganisms and biostimulants' contribution to soil health, biodiversity and nutrient bioavailability in agroecosystems." She also participated in an interview addressing the plant holobiont and soil microbiome, with particular emphasis on fungal communities as key ecosystem components.	
Skieniewice, Poland	24.10.24	Passariano, Udine, Italy	24.09.24
SPIN-FERT Press Conference		Technical Day on Growing Substrates	
On 24 October 2024, InHort organised a press conference dedicated to the SPIN-FERT project, aimed at promoting soil improvement strategies and peat-free growing media. The event gathered journalists from specialised technical magazines and regional radio and TV channels. SPIN-FERT was also presented to approximately 400 professional stakeholders during the accompanying conference "Innovations in Organic Horticultural Production," which included an organic farming workshop and presentations by all Polish project partners.		SPIN-FERT was represented at the Technical Day on Growing Substrates held in Passariano (Udine), providing an opportunity to engage with professionals and stakeholders focused on innovative and sustainable substrate solutions.	
Warsaw, Poland	17-20.09.24	Skieniewice, Poland	14-15.09.24
OrgHort 2024 Symposium		Annual Fair of Skierniewice	
From 17 to 20 September 2024, the 4th International Organic Fruit Symposium and the 2nd International Organic Vegetable Symposium were held in Warsaw. Organised by InHort and ISHS, the event included oral presentations and posters by InHort and EURECAT, as well as the presentation of the Memory Nexus project (FASSF/ASN). A survey was conducted to assess non-professional users' knowledge of peat-free substrates.		During the 47th Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables Festival in Skierniewice, InHort curated the exhibition "The Breath of the Earth." The exhibition explored soil and growing substrates through multisensory experiences and combined scientific insights with cultural perspectives, including a workshop dedicated to the scent of soil.	
Rome, Italy	12.07.24	Saint-Épain, France	19-21.06.24
Polish-Italian Workshop: Copernicus Dialogues		SPIN-FERT Kick-off Meeting - SPIN-FERT Project	
On 12 July 2024 in Rome, Prof. Magdalena Frać delivered a lecture titled "Soil and Plant Microbiomes under a Changing Environment" and participated in a debate on nature-based solutions for sustainable agriculture and ecosystem health, highlighting the relevance of the SPIN-FERT project.		The SPIN-FERT project was officially launched with a kick-off meeting held in Riccione, Italy. The representatives of all project partners visited research and industrial sites of RINOVA and ENOMONDO partners and discussed about the project activities, which are centered on peat-free substrates, circular economy goals, and soil protection, with sessions on project coordination and advanced soil quality tools. The event set a positive tone for future collaboration among partners and progress toward greener soil practices across Europe.	



PUBLICATIONS

Media Article

"Science, innovation, practice - from soil to table"

Video

"World Soil Day I contributi di SPIN-FERT" (IT)

Media Article

"With the SPIN-FERT project, better soil health and a boost to the circular economy"

Video

"Soil Aroma" (EN, PL)

Video

Interview on soil and plant microbiome (PL)

SPIN-FERT CONSORTIUM

