Organic fertilizer transport across borders: transparency in legislations

FIRe Joint meeting – May 26th 2015
Isabelle Vermander – Inemad - DLV
Organic fertilizer transport across borders: transparency in legislations

• Transport of fertilizers across borders ➔ comply with many regulations
• European directives ➔ member state legislations ➔ mostly lack of conformity ➔ contradictions while practically implementing
• The contribution of DLV will focus on the export/import of processed and unprocessed manure and other organic fertilizers
Difficulties

• Export/import organic fertilizers between EU-countries ➔ different levels of regulations
  • European legislation
    Nitrate Directive ➔ member state regulation
    EU 1069/2009 (health rules for animal by-products for non-human consumption)
  • Each country can pose additional regulations
  • Local regulations can vary within these countries

- Different levels do not comply with each other, instead of replacing local systems the European regulations adds more administration for transporters.
- Each local and federal authority has to be contacted separately to find out these regulations.
Type of product

- Export of processed manure/manure products (1h 70°)
- Export of unprocessed manure
  - Poultry manure
  - Horse manure
  - Other manure (cattle, dairy farms, pig, ...) → specific permission from both countries on each side of the border
  - Other fertilizers
- Farmers at the border (exemption)
  - Specific permission
  - Only their own manure

Transport between: Flanders ↔ France ↔ The Netherlands ↔ Germany ↔
Type of manure
pig, cattle, dairy, poultry, horse, ...

Treatment
processed, separated, unprocessed

Origin/destination
(different EU-countries)

Rules and Regulations:
- European
- Involved Countries
  - translated EU-directives
  - Country-specific legislation
- Involved departments
Case study: import of horse manure

Why import of horse manure

• Useful raw material for the preparation of substrate for mushroom cultivation
• After growing cycle champost can be used as fertilizer in agriculture and horticulture
• In small regions like Flanders, international trade is inevitable, especially for businesses close the border.
Case study: import of horse manure

Transporting difficulties

- Documents needed to request and report data about transport:
  - MAD for Flanders
  - VDM for the Netherlands
  - Commercial document using European TRACES-system
  - Veterinary documents
  - ...

→ Similar and overlapping documents for different regulations
Case studie: import of horse manure

Transporting difficulties

• Different practical regulations for every country or region:
  • Use of AGR-GPS and compatibility in different countries
  • Sample taking and analysis by recognized and licensed laboratory

• Contacting competent authorities
  • Germany: regions (Bundesländer) and local veterinary officials
  • Luxemburg: Federal level: veterinary services and waste administration
  • Belgium: FAVV and Mestbank
  • The Netherlands: VWA and RVO
  • ...
### Case: Export pig manure: Flanders → The Netherlands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification</th>
<th>Flanders</th>
<th>The Netherlands</th>
<th>Difficulties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture-number</td>
<td>Agriculture-number</td>
<td>Client-number</td>
<td>Numbers are not recognized across borders – different identification per country necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transporter-number</td>
<td>Transporter-number</td>
<td>Relation-number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary authorization</td>
<td>Veterinary certificate from FAVV (free of animal diseases)</td>
<td>Veterinary authorization from NVWA</td>
<td>Only one authorization necessary, no double administration!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>Sample analysis (N, P2O5, ...)</td>
<td>Sample analysis (N, P2O5, ...)</td>
<td>Different compendia in different countries, not compatible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR-GPS</td>
<td>AGR-GPS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Different providers – few are compatible in both countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorization to export the manure = ‘aanvraag om dierlijk mest te exporteren’ (Mestbank)</td>
<td>Authorization to import the manure = ‘mededeling voorgenomen import’ (RVO)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Two different procedures – no communication inbetween</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport document = MAD (MestAfzetDocument) (application ‘MTIL’ by Mestbank)</td>
<td>Transport document = VDM (Vervoersbewijs Dierlijke Mest) (application ‘mijn dossier’ by RVO)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Different transport documents in separate countries, not compatible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+ Traces = EU-system across borders
Goals

• Create transparency for transporters/exporters/importers in federal and local legislations for international organic fertilizer transports in the EU.

• Map out which regulations do not comply with others, or lead to double administration

• Suggest simplifications and improvements in regulations to competent authorities
Expected results

• Increased transparency in regulations for organic fertilizer transports in EU, especially between countries with large livestock and intensive production

• Advice for competent authorities on how to make regulations more compliant with other countries and the European regulations, leading to less administration

• Improved cooperation between competent regional, federal and European authorities

→ Increase the flow and recycling of useful nutrients and organic matter between European countries
Contact – information

For INEMAD

Ir. Isabelle Vermander
DLV (United Experts cvba)
Bruggestraat 132
8820 Torhout – Belgium (Flanders)
www.dlv.be
iv@dlv.be
+32 497 97 44 43