BACKGROUND

Among the most harmful phytopathogens which threaten crops, causing severe losses and including many quarantine for Europe, there are **bacteria** and **nematodes**. **Current pesticides for controlling these plant pathogens are definitely unsatisfactory and highly pollutant**.

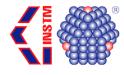
OBJECTIVE

Demonstrating the in vitro and in vivo efficacy and reliability of **polyphenolic-based biomolecules extracted from agricultural non-food biomasses and wastes** as disease control products against phytopathogenic bacteria and nematodes, to replace current pesticides and application of copper salts in agriculture. THE CONSORTIUM











INFO

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ENVIRONMENTALLY

FRIENDLY BIOMOLECULES

FROM AGRICULTURAL WASTES

AS SUBSTITUTES OF PESTICIDES

FOR PLANT DISEASES CONTROL

EXPECTED RESULTS

- improved soil fertility
- long-term reduction of the reservoir of environmental antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- reduction of pesticides residues on fruit and vegetables for human and animal consumption.
- reduction of point-source and diffuse pollution from the disposal of agricultural vegetable wastes in the environment.
- short-term reduction of pesticide- and drug-resistant bacteria and nematodes in agricultural sites
- reduction of costs for disposal of agricultural non-food vegetable biomasses and wastes.
- reduction of energy consumption used for remediation processes of pesticides-contaminated soils
- increased soil microbial diversity
- long-term reduction of pollution in agricultural soils due to the use of conventional pesticides and of pesticides pollution in water bodies.
- reduction of toxicological impact of pesticides pollution on terrestrial, aerial and aquatic fauna.

ACTIONS AND MEANS

VERGREEN

- demonstrate the negative environmental impact of the use of conventional chemical pesticides for the control of bacterial and nematode diseases.
- demonstrate performances as plant disease control products of tailored polyphenolic-based formulations from agricultural vegetable wastes, at laboratory, pilot and field scale.
- demonstrate the reliability and the compliance with REACH document of EU legislation of the extraction processes for these polyphenolic-based molecules, from lab-scale to kilo-lab scale.
- demonstrate the project technical validity for optimising the up-scaling of treatments with the polyphenolic-based molecules recovered from agricultural vegetable wastes, from laboratory to pilot scale and to semi-industrial scale.

- demonstrate the absence of any unexpected side effect of the bioactive polyphenolic-based molecules on common molecular targets of living organisms, at laboratory, pilot and semiindustrial scale.
- demonstrate the absence of any direct or cross-acting selection operated by the bioactive polyphenolic-based molecules towards the emergence of unwanted resistance phenomena in their respect or for conventional pesticides, copper or even antibiotics, at laboratory, pilot and semiindustrial scale.
- coordinate and manage the project and disseminate the results of the project in view of a wide application of its results within the EU Member States.

