



### **SOILCARE - Soil Care for profitable and sustainable crop production in Europe**

European crop production is to remain competitive while reducing environmental impacts, requiring development and uptake of effective soil improving cropping systems. The overall aim of SOILCARE is to identify and evaluate promising soil-improving cropping systems and agronomic techniques increasing profitability and sustainability across scales in Europe. A trans-disciplinary approach will be used to evaluate benefits and drawbacks of a new generation of soil improving cropping systems, incorporating all relevant bio-physical, socio-economic and political aspects. Existing information from literature and long term experiments will be analysed to develop a comprehensive methodology for assessing performance of cropping systems at multiple levels. A multi-actor approach will be used to select promising soil-improving cropping systems for scientific evaluation in 16 study sites across Europe covering different pedo-climatic and socio-economic conditions. Implemented cropping systems will be monitored with stakeholder involvement, and will be assessed jointly with scientists. Specific attention will be paid to adoption of soil-improving cropping systems and agronomic techniques within and beyond the study sites. Results from study sites will be up-scaled to the European level to draw general lessons about applicability potentials of soil-improving cropping systems and related profitability and sustainability impacts, including assessing barriers for adoption at that scale. An interactive tool will be developed for end-users to identify and prioritize suitable soil-improving cropping systems anywhere in Europe. Current policies and incentives will be assessed and targeted policy recommendations will be provided. SOILCARE will take an active dissemination approach to achieve impact from local to European level, addressing multiple audiences, to enhance crop production in Europe to remain competitive and sustainable through dedicated soil care.

**UNIPD Team Leader:** Antonio Berti

**Department:** Agronomy, Food, Natural Resources, Animals and the Environment

**Coordinator:** Stichting Wageningen Research (Netherlands)

**Other Participants:**

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne (United Kingdom)

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium)

University of Gloucestershire Lbg (United Kingdom)

Universität Hohenheim (Germany)

Research Institute for Knowledge Systems B.V. (Netherlands)

The Research Committee of the Technical University of Crete (Greece)

JRC -Joint Research Centre- European Commission (Belgium)

Universität Bern (Switzerland)

Milieu Limited (United Kingdom)



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**Find out more:** <https://www.soilcare-project.eu/>