

Innovation, Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI

# EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards 2024 for Operational Groups



Since the establishment of EIP-AGRI in 2012, more than 3 400 Operational Group projects (OGs) have contributed to the increased productivity and sustainability of agriculture and forestry in the EU. To celebrate the great variety of innovative OG projects and their achievements, the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards for Operational Groups were organised.

The main objective of the awards was to recognise and reward outstanding EIP-AGRI OGs which have developed innovative practices, solutions, products and processes.

There were six award categories:



**Sustainable management of natural resources:** OG projects that demonstrate innovative practices in resource efficiency and management which support sustainable transitions in agricultural systems.



**Business models in food supply chains:** OG projects that showcase innovative business models with a focus on short food supply chains, and marketing and consumption initiatives which have the potential to improve farm incomes, promote sustainable farming systems and contribute to local economic development.



**Animal welfare and husbandry:** OG projects that contribute to improving animal welfare and the sustainability of animal farms through innovative practices such as cage-free methods, precision livestock farming, and new commercial opportunities.



**Climate change mitigation and adaptation:** OG projects that strengthen the resilience of agriculture and rural areas through innovative initiatives and practices directly related to climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as efficient energy management.



**Sustainable forest management:** OG projects that showcase innovative forest management approaches such as climate-smart forestry, pest and disease management, nature restoration, forest ecosystem services, new technologies and the circular bioeconomy.



**Digitalisation:** OG projects that demonstrate how digitalisation can significantly increase profitability, improve working conditions for farmers and foresters, and improve the environmental and climate impact of agriculture and forestry.



A seventh award was given to the '**Public favourite**'.

From 240 applications, 30 nominees were selected by dedicated expert committees. The 7 winners were selected by an expert jury. The winners were announced during the [Awards ceremony](#) on 7 May 2024 in Estoril, Portugal, as part of the [EU CAP Network conference 'EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice'](#).

*"I think EIP-AGRI projects are great because they allow to take an idea or a concept and implement it, it's something you believe in, and that's exactly what we did and what I believe from working and chatting to farmers..."*

**Ray Ó Foghlú,**

Illaun Farm-Forest Alliance, representative  
of winning project in the category  
'Sustainable forest management'

## Nominees and winners of the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards



### Sustainable management of natural resources in farming practices

- > [Colorado Beetle Catcher](#): Sustainable Machine Pest Control (the Netherlands) 🏆
- > [INPOSA](#) - Innovation in tomato cultivation and sustainability in agriculture from molecular cuisine to the rural economy (Italy)
- > [MoreSoil](#) (Portugal)
- > [Preservation of the blackcurrant sector](#) in Burgundy and Franche-Comté, securing production volumes and organoleptic quality in the face of climate change: adapting and developing innovative agro-ecological practices (France)
- > Sustainable Uplands Agri-environment Scheme ([SUAS](#)) (Ireland)

### Business models in food supply chains

- > [Cultivation, harvesting and processing of hemp straw](#) and hemp seeds (Germany) 🏆
- > [SHEEP-UP](#) - Ovine bio-diversity in Veneto: an economic opportunity for farmers and their territory (Italy) - WINNER PUBLIC FAVOURITE
- > [EBioScart - GO FICO](#): Extraction of bioproducts from waste from prickly pear production (Italy)
- > Operational Group '[Zamojska Farma](#)' (Poland)
- > [Rosa Romana](#) apple of the Bolognese Appennines territory: organisation of a quality organic supply chain (Italy)

### Animal welfare and husbandry

- > [Parsutt](#) - Parma ham high sustainability standard (Italy) 🏆
- > [Animal welfare dairy cattle in Hesse](#) - provision and further development of a practical animal welfare tool for dairy farms (Germany)
- > [BEE SMART, BEE HEALTHY](#) (Romania)
- > Preserving quality in '[Arouquesa](#)' meat (Portugal)
- > [SMART FEED](#) - Smart measurements in cattle feeding and health (Finland)

### Climate change mitigation and adaptation

- > [SUBALMA](#) - Improving the productivity and sustainability of underground drip irrigation systems that use oil mill waste as fertiliser through the use of nanobubbles (Spain) 🏆
- > Cereals diversity for adaptation to climate change ([CEREALI RE-SILIENTI 2.0](#)) (Italy)
- > [Development of a carbon footprint guidance and calculator](#) for recycled fertiliser products (Finland)
- > [European Hemp Pole](#) (France)
- > [GOEfluentes](#) - Livestock effluents: strategic approach to the ag-economic/energy valorisation of the flows generated in agricultural activity (Portugal)

### Sustainable forest management

- > [Illaun Farm-Forest Alliance](#) (Ireland) 🏆
- > [GO SUBER](#) - Global modernisation of the cork harvesting sector: mechanisation, improvement of work environment, optimisation of organisation and commerce (Spain)
- > [IEPE](#) - Efficient installation of eucalyptus stands (Portugal)
- > [FERTIPINEA](#) - Nutrition and fertilisation of stone pine in rainfed and irrigated systems (Portugal)
- > [PLATISOR](#) - Methods for the management of cork oak forest with 'Platyus cylindrus' attacks in the region of So (Portugal)

### Digitalisation

- > [Precision liming in Brandenburg](#) (Germany) 🏆
- > [BRIDE](#) - Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment (Ireland)
- > [GO-PHYTODRON](#) - Validation and Safety of Aerial Drone Applications in the Agroforestry Environment (Spain)
- > [Improving Vineyard Efficiency and Sustainability](#) by Managing Within-field Variability through Variable Rate Applications (Italy)
- > [WeedBuster](#) - Prototype Andela robot weeder (the Netherlands)

## Nominees and winners of the EIP-AGRI Innovation Awards



### More information

- > [Awards webpage](#)
- > [Nominees webpage and videos](#)
- > [EU CAP Network conference 'EIP-AGRI Operational Groups: Innovation in practice'](#)
- > [EIP-AGRI project database](#)

#### Feedback and questions:

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#### Find out more about the EU CAP Network

Visit the [EU CAP Network website](#) to discover projects, ideas and resources to catalyse innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas.