



**Project title:** Baltic Slurry Acidification.

The project was financed by Interreg Baltic Sea Region programme.

**Timeframe:** 1/03/2016 – 28/02/2019.

**Aim:** To introduce farmers of The Baltic Sea Region to the latest slurry acidification techniques and to encourage them to implement these techniques on their farms, thus reducing the eutrophication of the Baltic Sea and the formation of hazardous aerosols in the Baltic Sea Region.

**Project partners:**

- Research Institutes of Sweden – RISE (Sweden)
- Estonian Crop Research Institute (Estonia)
- Baltic Sea Action Group – BSAG (Finland)
- Latvian Rural Advisory and Training Centre (Latvia)
- Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (Lithuania)
- Institute of Technology and Life Sciences – ITP (Poland)
- Agricultural Advisory Center in Brwinow Branch Office in Radom – CDR (Poland)
- State Agency for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the German Federal State Schleswig-Holstein – LLUR (Germany)
- Blunk GmbH (Germany)
- Union "Farmers Parliament" – ZSA (Latvia)
- Association of ProAgria Centres (Finland)
- The Rural Economy and Agricultural Society (Sweden)
- Br Goransson (Sweden)
- Animal Science Institute of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Lithuania)
- Organe Institute ApS (Denmark)
- Lauku Agro (Latvia)
- Vecsiljani (Latvia)

All information about the project results (analyses and conclusions from WPs) is published on the project website: <http://balticsslurry.eu/>

**Project activities**

The Baltic Slurry Acidification project aims to promote the implementation of slurry acidification techniques (SATs) and methods to reduce the eutrophication of the Baltic Sea and the formation of hazardous aerosols in the Baltic Sea region. Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service (LAAS) has worked in the following work packages: WP1 – Project Management and Administration, Coordination of communication; WP2 – Technical Feasibility Studies, where LAAS contributed to making an analysis of the potential of the SATs and provided data on a demand of such technology; WP3 – Pilot Installations and demonstrations, where LAAS provided assistance to one of the project partners Animal Science Institute of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LSMU) in organizing an informational event at the exhibition “Kā pasēsi ...2018” and the field day at the International Conference (in June); LAAS was the leader of WP4 – Field Trials, the main objectives of this WP were to test SATs by carrying out scientific and demonstration field trials as well as to collect and

summarize the results; WP6 – together with the leader of this WP, LAAS has prepared a SWOT analysis on SATs in Lithuania, formulated national recommendations for the use of SATs in future.

In Lithuania, intensive project activities started in 2018. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, at the opening day of the International Agricultural Exhibition "Ką pasėsi...2018", LAAS and Animal Science Institute of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences organized the seminar "Innovation for Sustainable Farm - Reducing Nitrogen Losses in Soil" to disseminate information on SAT (in-field), and political forum "Is it possible to match the deployment of environmental technologies and profitable economic activity?" The purchased equipment was exhibited at the stand of LAAS (during the whole exhibition - 3 days).



*Exposition of equipment at the stand of LAAS during the exhibition "Ką pasėsi... 2018".*

The seminar briefly presented the BSA project, its partners, activities. LAAS specialists, VU scientist and LSMU representative delivered presentations about slurry acidification techniques and the effect of acidified slurry on soil. Lists of participants of the seminar and the political forum and the minutes of the events were presented to the project managers.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, LAAS assisted LSMU in organizing a scientific-practical conference "Challenges of Climate Change in Animal Husbandry and Measures to Reduce Negative Effects" and a field day (demonstration of SAT and crops that were fertilized with acidified slurry). Representatives of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania and the Environmental Protection Agency delivered presentations at the conference and LAAS specialists presented the BSA project.

The meeting of the project partners and a public informational event for farmers took place in Germany on September 23-28. After receiving the funds from the project managers (RISE) to prepare additional promotional material (video), LAAS sent a larger team to this project meeting: two specialists of marketing department and a project coordinator in Lithuania G. Kučinskienė. The project was discussed at Kiel University. An article about this visit was written and published, and a video was prepared about the project partner from Germany - Blunk GmbH, which provides field cultivation (machinery) services to farmers.

A link of the article:

<http://www.agroakademija.lt/Straipsniai/StraipPerziura?StraipsnisID=12672&TemaID=8>

A link of the video reporting:

<http://www.agroakademija.lt/Video/AlbumoPerziura?VideoID=9454&TemaID=8>

During the project meeting in Kiel (in September), project partners working in WP4 did not have detailed results of field trials, so it was agreed that a meeting of this WP would be organized in

Lithuania. This meeting took place in Vilnius (6 November 2018) and presented the results of field trials that were carried out in 7 countries. The recommendations for WP4 report were briefly discussed. The minutes and a list of participants of this meeting were provided to the project managers.

Taking advantage of the situation that almost all the partners who have tested SAT in 2016-2018 were in Lithuania at that moment, LAAS organized The BSA Project Roundtable Meeting that took place in the Ministry of Agriculture (Vilnius; 7 November). Such activity (measure) was assigned to LAAS in WP6.



*The roundtable discussion was attended by project partners from Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Finland, Estonia, Germany and Sweden, representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, Environmental Protection Agency and Lithuanian Fund for Nature.*

The results of field trials were presented, possibilities of application of SATs in Lithuania were discussed, and the questions of the use of SATs that were of interest to Lithuanians were answered during the meeting. The list of participants and minutes of this event were provided to the leader of WP6.

A link of the article:

<http://www.agroakademija.lt/Straipsniai/StraipPerziura?StraipsnisID=12735&TemaID=10>

On November 13-15, two specialists of Marketing Department – an operator and editor, and a specialist of Department of Innovation Development – a translator, visited the Estonian Crop Research Institute and met The Institute’s scientists who conduct research on acidification of slurry, also visited a farm where acidified slurry was used for fertilization. After the visit, a comprehensive video reporting and an article to disseminate project activities and results were prepared.

A link of the video reporting:

<http://www.agroakademija.lt/Video/AlbumoPerziura?VideoID=9465&TemaID=8>

A link of the article:

<http://www.agroakademija.lt/Straipsniai/StraipPerziura?StraipsnisID=12804&TemaID=8>

On February 12-13, 2019, the final meeting of the project partners took place in Jyväskylä (Finland) during the international conference “Exchange Days for Agri-Environmental Knowledge”.

A link of the video reporting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7IjeK0xciw>