

biowad Newsletter

November 2014



Planty Organic is a study into a new and innovative agricultural system in general and the nitrogen cycle in particular. The study started in 2012 and is carried out at the Kollummerwaard model farm in Munnikezijl (on the boundary of Groningen/Friesland). More information about this interesting study can be found at the website www.biowad.nl (in Dutch).

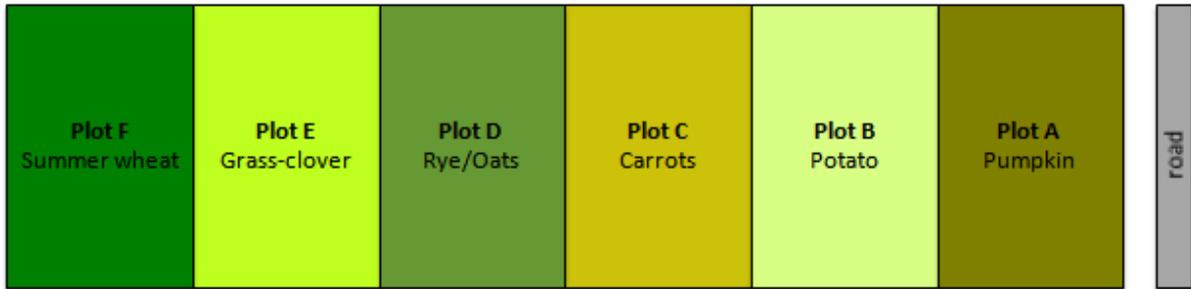
Looking back on the 2013-2014 season

Autumn has begun, the last crops have been harvested. The autumn vegetables, pumpkins and carrots, are now in storage. It's a good time to reflect on the 2013-2014 season. We have had a good potato year, and fortunately we did not suffer much from Phytophthora. Our carrots were successful, but regrettably the price was poor. Other crops have performed a little less well than we expected, and the yields of grain and pumpkin were disappointing. Nitrogen requires continual attention. The fundamental research question is how nitrogen develops dynamically in this system.



Status of the trial field

The trial field is rather empty at the moment. The pumpkins were harvested on 4 September, the carrots in the middle of October. We will soon sow a green manure on those fields. Green manure is already growing on the other fields. The clover-grass has been cut for the fourth time, and we have made this into pellets. See our [logbook](#) (in Dutch) for the exact actions and dates.



Danes visit our trial field

Once again this year, a group from Denmark came to visit in September. These were organic plant growers. These farmers are members of a focus group that is working on reducing the use of conventional manure in organic farming. They were very interested in the progress we have made with our trial field. We agreed to endeavour to work together even more closely in the future. Together we will investigate whether we can establish an Interreg project on organic fertilization.



Wageningen University students write thesis

A group of students from Wageningen university visited our trial farm in Munnekezijl on Friday 26 September 2014. The five students will be writing a thesis about cut green manures and the accompanying economic calculations. In due course, we will inform you about the results.



Article in Akker

In April of this year an article about Planty Organic was published in the Akker Magazine. 'Planty Organic: runs on its own minerals.' Read the complete article [here](#) (in Dutch).

Planty Organic is partly made possible by:



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