

Innovation Hub Factsheets 2024

Organic and low till, Belgium

This Belgian-based innovation hub brings organic farmers, trying to reduce soil tillage together in learning networks to explore low till cropping techniques, while still paying close attention to weed control. Coming together to share on-farm experience and results, good and bad, has enabled practice-based innovation.



Low till soil profile



Legume intercropping

Notable successes and challenges 2023–2024

2023–24 has been a very positive period for the organic and low till group. Several new farmers joined the group, and are now integrated in the experimental aspects of the innovation hub work, with one field from each farm being part of the project.

New team members bring energy and mental charge, while trials look at integrating cropping systems design, alternating a row of crops with an inter-row of perennial legumes. Weather conditions have caused issues at times this year, providing smaller windows to carry out interventions on the fields.

The team carried out soil sampling during Spring 2024. In June 2024 they took part in the Festival of Agroecology and Soil Conservation Agriculture at Freloux Farm in Belgium.

Summary

The team continues to find opportunities to share knowledge, extend their farmer network and find innovative research techniques to support the success of low till in organic systems.